MOUNTAIN VIEW CORRIDOR & TOLLING:

A Panel Discussion and Open House

UDOT Project No. *SP-0067(3)0

9 November 2006

Salt Lake Community College

Miller Campus

9750 South 300 West

Sandy, Utah

8:00 a.m.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: I'd think it's time we begin this morning.

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We want to welcome all of you here to the Transportation Committee meeting. This is a little different format than we usually operate in, but we have some important business to take care of this morning. We welcome all of you here. And we recognize we asked some very important people, and people who are very knowledgeable of many areas, especially that related to transportation.

My name is Glen Brown. I'm the commission chair. And I'm going to take just a moment and allow everyone -- all of our commissioners to introduce themselves.

Commissioner Lewis, would you like to start out, please?

COMMISSIONER LEWIS: I'm Jerry Lewis. I'm commissioner from St. George. I represent the southwest part of the state, which includes about ten counties.

COMMISSIONER WILSON: Bevan Wilson. I'm from Huntington. I represent southeastern Utah; Emery, Carbon, Grand, and San Juan counties.

COMMISSIONER BODILY: Steve Bodily. I live in Lewiston. I represent the northern tier of

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COMMISSIONER WARNICK: Ken Warnick. I live in south Ogden, representing Weber, Davis, Morgan counties.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Kent Millington.

I live in Highland, and I represent the central part of the state; Utah County specifically, and on -- Juab

County, and then on east to the Colorado and Wyoming borders.

MR. BROWN: Thank you.

We're missing one commissioner this morning. She may be right in the midst, Commissioner Wells, who represents the Salt Lake County and Tooele County area.

And I live in Coalville, and I'm the commissioner (inaudible) in the state.

We have, of course, some very unique opportunities ahead of us in our state, and a lot of challenges as it relates to our transportation.

One of the issues that we have spent some time on already, and that is the issue of -- of considering tolling on our facilities. It's an issue that brings a lot of concern and uncomfort to many people. But as a Commission, we've felt that it is something that we have to give a serious consideration to.

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Oftentimes people assume that decisions have already been made, but that's certainly not the case.

We're trying to do our very best to understand this issue, and to be acquainted with all of the pros and cons associated with that.

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Hopefully today, as we go through our panel discussion, we will be able to get different perspectives, learn from one another, and be able to interact and to come to an understanding of the things that hopefully we need in order to make wise and important decisions for our traveling public and the citizens of our state.

I've had join me here another Commissioner

Jan Wells. Would you like to say hello this morning?

COMMISSIONER WELLS: Good morning,

everybody. I'm not going to say a lot. I represent

Salt Lake and Tooele counties, and I have a bad voice today.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Sorry about that.

We certainly hope you haven't been yelling at anyone or anything like that.

In order, this morning, we have Lieutenant
Governor Gary Herbert, to help us start this commission
meeting out, and then these panels, and share
perspective.

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And we certainly, as a Commission, are very grateful for the support we've had from our current administration, likewise the Legislature. They have recommended and appropriated a lot of money in the last few years, and it's helped us accomplish a number of things.

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We've got a long ways to go and a lot to do, but we have been very appreciative of all of the support we've had from our Governor and our Lieutenant Governor.

So Lieutenant Governor, would you like to take just a moment and kick us off from there? Thank you for being with us this morning.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR HERBERT: Well, thank you, Glen. I don't know if this is supposed to be this way, tilted to the right, because I'm a Republican.

Maybe I'll just do this. How's that?

See how adaptable this administration is?

Hey, I apologize for not being here in my

pajamas this morning, but I've been up early, and I'm a

little blurry-eyed. And it really is representative of

the challenge that we have in the state of Utah right

now, and germane to the subject at hand. And that is,

we have tremendous growth in the state of Utah. I had

my number seven grandchild born at 3:30 this morning,

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and at the American Fork hospital, so I've not had as much sleep as normally I would have. Normally I'd get at least four or five hours. And I didn't get that last night.

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But, again, it is -- I reflected on that this morning, as we see a fast growing state. You know, we're the fourth or fifth fastest growing state here in the Union. And that means that we are going to continue to have some of those challenges that are impacted because of growth. And at the top of the list is certainly our transportation needs.

And with the ups and downs of the economy, sometimes it, in the past, it's not been always -- we have not always had the ability to address some of those transportation needs, and we've fallen a little bit behind the curve. As most of you know here, we have a multi-billion dollar shortfall, and the challenge of how do we address the transportation needs in this state, which are great.

We've had a transportation summit, where we've talked about a lot of these issues. Just as important, we've had an economic development summit, where we had a lot of the CEOs from the top 150 companies in the state come and talk about what can we do to grow the economy? And the good news is the

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economy is growing. Again, in the state of Utah, 27 out of 29 counties have had economic growth and prosperity the last 12 months. So those are good things. But it also exacerbates, in some way, the growth pressures, because people look to Utah now as a place to go, and to set up their family, and their business. And entrepreneurs are looking to Utah as fertile field. And we like that, and we appreciate that, and we encourage it. But as the business people are telling us, unless we have transportation, that's not only safe but effective, then we can have this dampening effect on the economy, which makes it difficult for all of us as Utah. Particularly difficult not only for us, but for our children, or for my granddaughter's future, that was born this morning.

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So, again, this is a very important topic for us, as far as how we address it. I think a lot of good things have happened on our watch. Again, thanks to some of the Legislature. Representative Lockhart is here, and I certainly want to give her tribute, and others in the Legislature, in helping us focus on transportation, and actually, for the first time in Utah's history, have some kind of ear-marking where at least a portion of our general fund monies are now going into a transportation and investment fund.

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And that will allow us, as we grow the economy, to have some kind of proportionality of money that's going to be put into the transportation fund.

But, again, I guess the sad thing is it's not enough.

As we look at the nature of the challenge in the state of Utah, we have this multi-billion dollar shortfall.

We have had some relief.

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The elections, I think, have given us indication here that the public is aware, they're concerned, and they're saying to us, as elected officials, policy makers, We're going to give you some money. We're going to give you some tools. Now do something. We want you to fix it. And Proposition 3 passing here in Salt Lake valley, and the -- and, of course, an option has passed in Utah County, will at least give us a significant, I think, leg up in helping us address, at least in part, some of the transportation challenges we have in the state of Utah.

We are still not going to have enough though. We have I-15 reconstruction that needs to be done. We're here to talk about the Mountain View Corridor, but there's other areas in Utah and Davis County, and the roads in Weber County. The parkway in -- Summit Parkway in Washington County. So a lot of roads in rural Utah. It's going to be a significant

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mountain for us to climb, and we must climb it, and we can only do it if we do it together. So I'm pleased that we're here today to talk about the Mountain View Corridor, and particularly tolling.

Again, I think that the Legislature and Governor Huntsman said, Hey, we've got to look at what all of the options are out there. Look at all of the arrows we have in the quiver, to see what's going to be best for us.

And let me just echo what Glen Brown said.

No decision has been made. But we certainly want to review and put on the table all of those options and discuss.

One thing, we cannot leave today, and that is not having the facts. And hopefully we can ascertain the facts, because I -- as I get around the state, I hear different things being said which are not factual. And we're not going to come to the right conclusion here unless we base our decision making on actual facts.

So hopefully we'll have a lot of opportunity to -- for all of us to learn together, and ascertain what the facts are, so that we make appropriate decisions for Utah's future.

Let me just conclude by saying, I thank you

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all for being here. There really is a need for all of us to work together on. I want to pay tribute to our Transportation Commission, the chairman, Glen Brown, and the other members of the Transportation Commission, for the good work they're doing. This is not easy. This is a difficult thing to have to decide how to apportion the money, and who gets it, and who doesn't; and making those kind of difficult decisions.

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But appreciate everybody being here, and I'm looking forward to staying here for part of the discussion today, and listening and learning myself.

As we address some of these difficult issues for Utah's future. So thank you very much.

(AUDIENCE APPLAUSE).

Let me now welcome up to the podium, John Njord, who's doing a great job. Has done a great job, along with Carlos Braceras, our UDOT.

Again, I can tell you that nationally,
Utah's recognized as a place where the program is
running efficiently, that we're getting good bang for
the taxpayers dollars. I know our past director, Tom
Warner is here. And, again, we have not skipped a
beat. We've done some great things here, and John
Njord is leading the charge here, transportation in the
state of Utah. So welcome John Njord.

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MR. JOHN NJORD: Thank you, Lieutenant Governor.

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You know, it's been amazing to see what's happened over the last couple of years with Lieutenant Governor Herbert and Governor Huntsman, and their interest and level of interest and emphasis on transportation. We've seen some tremendous strides taken forward. And I appreciate your leadership, Lieutenant Governor, as well as Governor Huntsman, in leading us on that charge towards making transportation a priority here in our state.

I'd also like to thank those panelists. You know, for a long time we've been talking about some panel discussion today. And I've thought in my head, to get this prestigious crowd together to talk about this issue is really something special. And I think today we're going to really learn together, as you said, Lieutenant Governor, and that we will find some common ground, I hope.

I'd like to thank the transportation commissioners for making time to be here with us today. This means that you're here with us all day today, instead of just a half a day, and I appreciate your commitment to transportation, and to public service, which is really notable.

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I'd like to thank the Federal, state, and local officials who are here with us today, and those that are interested in this project.

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You know, we started the Mountain View Corridor three years ago. And it's a -- an environmental impact statement that we started. And when you think about things that we have accomplished as a state, this really stands out as notable. As being quite different from anything we've done for decades here in our state.

We're proposing a new highway, that's nearly 40 miles long, spans two counties, and will begin to connect communities that are on the brink right now of explosion in their growth.

When we started this process, we knew full well that we didn't know how to finance it. And that didn't deter us from moving forward with an environmental impact statement.

It's often the case that you begin these environmental impact statements, not knowing exactly what's going to happen, or what the solution is going to be. In this situation, it was just this year we decided, you know, we've got to find other solutions beyond what we've normally relied upon to find financing for this project. And I think Lieutenant

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Governor Herbert really defined the challenge for us quite well. We have multiple projects throughout the state that are under-funded, or not funded at all. And for us to continue marching along with an environmental impact statement, with no solutions at all, is a difficult process. I know that, as I look around the room, I recognize many faces, and I suspect that many of you have experienced the same thing that I have. And that is talking with someone who's going to be directly impacted by a highway, face to face, and tell them, We don't know when we're going to build this thing. And for them to know that we're going to take their home eventually, but that eventuality may be 10, 20, or 30 years from now. It's not a pleasant experience to do that. And it's an experience that, on the receiving end, I expect is less pleasant than on the delivery end, from our side.

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We're looking for solutions. Now we launched, some time ago, a managed-lane study within the department. That managed-lane study identified all sorts of solutions that can help us address congestion that we're experiencing in our state, as well as finding solutions.

One of the corridors that we identified in that managed lane study was the Mountain View Corridor.

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And it's that that has brought us here together today.

It's because of that that we're here, that we're

examining this issue, and we're looking at tolling.

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Lieutenant Governor was right, we're not going to make a decision today, nor would we recommend a decision for many -- much time into the future.

There's going to be -- need to be a collaboration of many people in order to make a decision of this magnitude. And I suspect that that decision-making process will take a considerable amount of time.

Getting the facts out in front of us today I think is really important. Hearing all sides of the issue I think is very important. Because ultimately you commissioners are going to have the responsibility to make this decision as to whether or not this becomes a toll road or not.

And so I commend everyone that's participating today. I look forward to the discussion. And I'd like to now turn the time over to Ted Knowlton, from Envision Utah, who has graciously accepted the opportunity -- is that what it is, Ted? The opportunity? -- to facilitate this meeting today.

So Ted? I'll turn it over to you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, John. Appreciate that.

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I'd like to thank the Utah Transportation

Commission and the Utah Department of Transportation

for inviting me to moderate this discussion today.

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Also like to thank the panelists for taking time out of your schedules to be with us. We know that some of you have previous commitments that you need to attend to, as well as, I believe the Lieutenant Governor. If you need to leave at any point to attend to those commitments, please feel free to do so.

Today, we're here obviously to talk about tolling, and how it relates to the Mountain View Corridor. We have three different panels that represent three general areas of the tolling discussion.

First of all, we have governmental perspectives; Federal, state, county, and local, on the Mountain View Corridor and tolling.

The second panel has to do with the tolling analysis findings relative to the Mountain View Corridor in particular.

And the third panel will give us insight on the local issues and impacts of transportation and tolling as it relates to the Mountain View Corridor, from the perspectives of community leaders and business interests.

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I will ask the audience and any panelists to be respectful of each other, and as any comments or questions are posed, we encourage you to have proper decorum and civility when making those comments or questions.

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First, I'd like to take you through the protocol today, and then introduce the first panel.

One hour is allotted for each panel. That includes the presentations, as well as questions from the Commission.

First, I'll explain the panel topic, I'll introduce the panelist. Each panelist has three to five minutes for their presentation. I will give each panelist a reminder when they have one minute left.

After each of those presentations are complete, Commissioner Brown will lead the Transportation Commission in asking follow-up questions of the panel members.

In order to keep us on schedule, I will suggest to Commissioner Brown when an appropriate time has been reached to move on to the next panel.

If there is time after the panelists -- the Transportation Commission has completed their questions, within that hour allotment, we will open it up for public questions from the audience.

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And that will carry on through the three different panels. And then after the third panel, we will open it up to questions from the audience.

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Gratefully, there's a break in between the second and third panelists. But we recognize, if any of the panelists or the audience need to step out for refreshment, please feel free to do so.

Let's turn our attention to the first panel.

Government Perspectives on Tolling.

With us today is Walter Waidelich, Butch
Waidelich, with the Federal Highway Administration. He
will talk about current and future expected conditions
for transportation funding, and policy from a Federal
perspective, including the availability and source of
funds.

We also have with us Tom Warne, with Tom
Warne & Associates, as John Njord mentioned, a previous
director with the Utah Department of Transportation.
He will discuss present and future expected conditions
for transportation funding and policy in other states,
giving us that perspective, including availability and
sources of funds.

Grateful to have Representative Becky

Lockhart here with us today. She will cover present

and future expected conditions for transportation

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funding and policy in the state of Utah, including availability and sources of funds.

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Grateful to have Mayor Dennis Nordfelt of
West Valley City, also the chair of the Wasatch Front
Regional Council here to talk with us today about
future and expected conditions for transportation
funding and policy from a Metropolitan planning
organization perspective.

And finally, grateful to have Commissioner

Larry Ellertson with the Utah County Commission here

with us today, to discuss the local county perspective

on these same issues.

So let's start with Butch Waidelich.

Butch Waidelich assumed the position of the -- pardon me. I'll just give you a brief introduction and let people know about you.

-- assumed the position of the division administrator in Utah for the Federal Highway

Administration in November of 2005. He leads a staff of 17 here in Utah. Butch has a bachelor's of science in mining engineering from Colorado School of Mines.

Before coming to Utah, he was the assistance division administrator in the New Hampshire Division for Federal Highway Administration.

Mr. Waidelich has been the recipient of

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numerous performance and honor awards, including the Secretaries Award for Partnering Excellence and J.K. Martin Memorial Peer Award.

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Mr. Waidelich and his wife lives -- are both originally from Albany, New York, and have two grown children, Chris and Anne.

Butch, thanks very much for being here today. You have five minutes.

MR. WAIDLICH: I better move quickly then.

I'm not sure where the clicker went.

First of all, thank you very much for allowing me to participate in this panel. I noticed Lieutenant Governor Herbert mentioned the growth in Utah. And one of the most outstanding figures that I've noticed is -- also is in the past few years we've talked about hitting 300 million people in the United States. And not too many people realize, we're the fifth or sixth fastest growing country in the world also. And on top of that, it took us 40 years to hit 300 million, and they're expecting, in less than 20 years, to add another 100 million to that.

So, as a country, we have similar issues as we have here in Utah, and -- in dealing with congestion, and the rapidly rising growth of that. And dealing with safety, it's paramount.

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What I'd like to do today, fairly quickly, is give you a status of essentially where the income comes for Federal aid that goes to the states.

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Give you a little bit of a status of the trust fund in recent years, and then give you a sense of the direction of laws since the Intermobile Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act of 1991.

Prior to 1956, highway funds essentially came from the general fund of the treasury. Yes, we had highway user taxes. As a matter of fact, in 1933 was the first gasoline tax. One cent for deficit reduction, and was supposed to last one year. Ended up staying, and we've had a gas tax ever since.

And it was 1916 when they started taxing vehicles. Trucks. But those taxes had no connection to the funding of highways. It was in 1956 where the Highway Trust Fund was established, and a three-cent gas tax, in order to provide income for that, in order to build the interstates. And since that time, we still have that trust fund.

The income into that trust fund comes from gasoline and Gasohol tax, Federal diesel taxes, and truck user taxes, for -- there's an annual heavy vehicle tax, heavy truck tire tax, and sales tax on vehicles.

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Just to give you a little better

perspective, you know, how that fits in the big

picture. As you can see here, the majority of it is in

fuel taxes.

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This graph, I know it's a little difficult to see, but what it shows is essentially the balances of the trust fund, expenditures coming out of it, and its income in recent years.

And maybe two -- if you could see it

better -- fairly easy observations you could make is

that in the last few years, more has gone out than has

gone in. And essentially we're drawing down the

balance of that trust fund over time.

One thing that is not on this is -- was SAFETYLU, the funding levels that are guaranteed by law, through the next few years, to 2009, are going to have higher expenditures coming out of this fund next few years.

All right. I've got to caution you on this one, because there's different projections out there. But based on projections from the Treasury, and at current revenue streams, it's looking like the trust fund at the end of SAFETYLU, in 2009, to the range with a balance, you know, as it says, negative \$1 billion, or to \$6 billion. You've probably seen different

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numbers. They could be better, they could be worse, but I think the bottom line out of this is what it's saying is that it -- at current income projections, there doesn't appear to be a surplus in order to fund significant increases out of this trust fund, unless changes are made.

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I don't think many people would argue that the nation's needs are increasing, and that there is congestion issues.

Now, what this is showing here is the vehicle miles traveled. One -- it increases about two and a half percent a year. What, strikingly, is interesting here, the last few years it has been increasing faster in urban areas than in rural areas, which essentially says, Hey, the problem is compounding.

Another issue that we're dealing with is construction costs. I'm sure many of us in here realize that construction costs have increased at a greater rate than inflation, which really hurts the purchasing power of transportation dollars.

What I've got here is just a snapshot of where public transportation dollars come from. And this is essentially 19 -- or 2004 data. Since this time there's been, I believe, 26 of 34 states have

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I guess I've got one minute. Let me move fairly quickly here.

I left this without numbers on it. And we can argue about funding gaps. You hear different numbers. I've actually heard numbers as great as \$300 billion as a funding gap, and that was from non-governmental sources.

But again, I think we can all agree that there is some sort of funding gap.

Since the passage of ISTEA in 1991, there's been a trend in legislation towards flexibility of Federal funds, innovative financing, and essentially using tolling as a tool.

Now, I don't want to go through these slides in very much detail, but I'm going to race through them in the last minute I have.

it established tolling. Acknowledged tolling as a viable tool, and it also allowed certain conditions where Federal funds could be used with toll loans, and

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to pay them off, and also pilot programs that would potentially reduce congestion. It made that link.

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National Highway System Act came about 1995. It established a state infrastructure bank program, which is a revolving fund, created a variety of Federal options to match Federal funds with, and it also provided the ability to use Federal aid to relieve the cost of debt financing, with future Federal aid. You may have heard the term garby bonds. And that's what those were.

1998, Transportation Equity Act. Again, provided credit assistance for major projects. And expanded previous changes in the law, but it also allowed tolling pilots on the interstate system.

Most recently, under SAFETEA-LU, it makes standard practice of the state infrastructure bank program. Tax exempt bonds with Federal aid, and further expanded tolling on the interstate for new interstates as a pilot program.

I know I'm going real fast. But to finish, what I'd like to say is, SAFETEA-LU will expire

September 30th, 2009. Within SAFETEA-LU there is a

Section 1909, which establishes this National Surface

Transportation Policy and Revenue Study. That's that

12-member Commission, you may have heard about, to deal

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with national transportation policy. Mary Peters, the Secretary of Transportation is the chairman of that Commission. And the product of it is going to be a report. And what the hope is is that it's going to essentially be used for public and congressional debate in national transportation policy in the future.

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Again, I want to thank you for your time, and I look forward to your questions.

MR. TED KNOWLTON: Turning from the Federal perspective, and now to the experience of other states, with us today is Tom Warne, president of Tom Warne & Associates. Mr. Warne was the executive director of the Utah Department of Transportation from 1995 to 2001.

Tom has a bachelor's of science in civil engineering from Brigham Young University and a master's in civil engineering from Arizona State University.

Tom, thanks so much for being with us here today. And you have five minutes.

MR. WARNE: Thank you, Ted.

Lieutenant Governor Herbert, Chairman Brown, members of the Commission, it's a pleasure to be here to talk about a very important topic for our state.

My purpose here is to share with you the

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perspective of the -- what the other states are doing.

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You've heard Butch's presentation about the Federal picture. And I have to say, just really, in one sentence here, we can't rely on the Federal funds that we have had in the past to solve our transportation problems today.

We'll appreciate every dollar that comes through the Federal process, but many of our solutions are going to have to be found right here in the state of Utah.

I put this slide up here. This is actually a slide of the ballot initiatives that have been tracked through this latest election cycle. Actually, we've been tracking, over the last year, 48 different initiatives in 13 states. And they range from a sales tax initiatives to initiatives that relate to bonding. They relate to highway projects, transit projects, and other things.

What's interesting, and as -- is you'll note that there is quite a gathering of states in the West that are doing this. A -- largely a function of the population congestion issues that we face.

The Commission has a handout, and there are additional copies of this handout that we've provided. But if you'll go back to the third page, you'll

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actually see the listing of all of the ballot initiatives and their current status.

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So far, 29 are shown as having been approved. There are three that are yet to be decided out of the 48. So it represents about two-thirds of the ballot initiatives on transportation matters, actually were approved through the election this week.

This is found in our weekly newsletter, Tom
Warne Report, which is available on our Web site, for
those that don't get a copy of the handout.

A couple of trends that I would like to note here, is that if you look at the funding sources, we recently did a study in another state where we came up with 50 different ways to raise revenue for transportation. But when it comes right down to it, there are only about three or four that raised substantial dollars. You can raise the gas tax, you can use a sales tax, you can do something with fees, or you can basically raise tolls.

Those are the only ones that raise substantial amounts of dollars. Yes, you can put advertising on buses. That was the one of the things that somebody said in the study we did. And that raises about five bucks. I mean, you've got to focus on the things that really raise money. And as it turns

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out, those are the things that will really bring the revenues to you.

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what you're going to find is that no matter what revenue stream you pick, and this is true across the country, there are going to be those that oppose that revenue stream. And you could tell me a revenue stream, and you pick one, and I'll tell you who's going to oppose it right now. What you're going to face.

What our Legislature is going to face is you're going to have to pick a revenue stream that some people are not going to support, because there will not be unanimity, no matter which course you select.

What's interesting, and what's happening in the state, and there was this reliance early on for national dollars, the Federal dollars that Butch talked about. Then it went to the state dollars. But if you look at the initiatives that are represented on this chart here, in fact, that the trend is from national to state legislative provided money, state-wide dollars, to actually going to local and user dollars.

A good example is what's going on in California today, where the counties -- they call it the self-help county program, where the counties are actually solving their own transportation problems by taxing themselves.

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I'd like to go to the next slide. Am I controlling this? Okay.

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Our time is short. I just wanted to show you this particular slide. One of the things that you see nationally, as a very, very strong trend, and that's the subject of our discussion here today, is the notion of toll roads. We created this map. All of the states that have P3 legislation. Public partnership, public legislation. There are actually 28 states that have legislation on that matter.

We also put, on this particular chart, all of the states that currently are toll roads, or toll bridges, or some other type of toll facility. And what you find is that about 80 percent of the states in the country actually have some type of facility like this.

I know that you represented that the discussions you're having today represent some new thought. That Utah is somehow on the edge of a new concept of tolling, or having a user pay system. But what I wanted to show you with this particular slide is nationally the trend is towards finding other ways to solve the financial problems that they face in transportation. Yes, they're appreciative of every Federal dollar Butch brings to them, but they are taxing themselves through the initiatives on the first

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map that I provided to you. But if you look at this particular map, you see that nationally, the trend is towards tolls, and the need to raise money at a local level, with users paying their way.

I appreciate the opportunity to be here. I look forward to the questions and the dialogue, and look forward to the solutions that you and the state Legislature find for resolving our transportation problems.

Thank you very much.

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MR. KNOWLTON: With us today is Representative Rebecca Lockhart.

Representative Lockhart formerly served as the co-chair of Transportation Planning Task Force from 2003 through 2004. She has a bachelor's of science in nursing from Brigham Young University.

Thank you so much, Representative Lockhart, for being here with us. You have five minutes.

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: Thank you. Thank you for inviting me here, and allowing me to put forward some thoughts concerning state funding.

As the last two years have been banner years, we have seen increases in transportation funding like -- I guess like never before. And I've been very pleased to be a part of that.

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We created the TIF, which is the Transportation Investment Fund. We were able to get Legacy back on-line and put the money there where it needs to be so that we can get that highway done.

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I guess it's a parkway. It's a parkway.

We were actually able, last year, to avoid having to bond in the Centennial Highway Fund, which is, as state Legislature, we were very concerned about the amount of debt that's being carried in these areas. So we were able to do that.

And one of the things that I'm most happy about is that both Prop 3, I believe it was up here, and the opinion question in Utah County passed this last week. And might I just say, having -- because I'm from Utah County, I hope now that all of this talk about Utah County not willing to come to the table will now be over. Because I believe -- I haven't checked for sure, but I believe the opinion question passed by a higher percentage in Utah County than Prop 3 did in Salt Lake County.

So when Utah County sees the need, they are willing to come to the table and be part of the solution.

My greatest concern is that, because we've had two great years, the Legislature and the public in

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general are going to think that their job is done.

That we've found all of this money, yeah, we can build all of our roads and build our light rail and commuter rail and we're done. Let's move on to something else.

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I think you've heard, and you will continue to hear from many of us that this is just plain not true. We have billions of dollars of needs still that will be unfunded, and so we have to continue to look for ways to find revenue.

We also have something else coming up in this session that many of you need to be aware of. You probably heard a little bit about it. That is the spending cap. The spending cap is statutory. The Legislature put it in a few years ago. Well, it's been there forever, as far as I know, but we changed the way that we calculate the spending cap. And the spending cap allowance and revenues were kind of going like this. Well, we changed it, and this year is when they're going to cross. And so we're going to --you're going to see lots of discussions at the Legislature in terms of what that means. Which budgets are going to have to be reevaluated and reprioritized.

The good news for transportation is that the Transportation Investment Fund is outside of that cap.

That any money that goes there is not counted. So I'm

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happy about that, because transportation is such a critical need. But you will hear a lot of discussion about that issue.

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The other thing, that isn't transportation related but that you need to know, is that spending and public education is also outside of that cap. So we're able to put more in that area of the budget.

In terms of potential, like I said, the Legislature, I think, in many cases, seems to -- is beginning to feel like they've done the hard work.

They've done their job. We've put so much there, it's time to move on.

And if I could ask all of you, the Commission, as well as members of the public and other government officials, the message has to be gotten out that this is -- we're not done. That we still have significant need.

And we talk about the gas tax. And I'll just tell you straight out, there's not a lot of support in the Legislature for raising gas taxes. It's a dying revenue source, and we're looking at more innovative and more forward-looking ways of funding transportation.

Tolling. The Legislature did not -- there's always been tolling in Utah. We've had a toll road in

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Utah that most people don't know about. But the

Legislature passed legislation that didn't say, You

will toll, it said to the Commission, You may toll.

And the commissioners, with their great knowledge and

expertise, have the ability to make that decision as to

whether or not tolling is appropriate, and which

facilities. So I believe the Legislature showed some

significant trust and belief in the Commission, and

their abilities to make the right decisions.

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Legislatures are good at a lot of things, but we're not necessarily transportation gurus, and so we've left that up to the Commission to make that decision.

What I'd like to see happen, obviously we're not going to be relying on the Federal monies as we have in the past. In fact, I'm one of those individuals who would prefer that the Federal government give us back our gas tax monies so that the states can use it as they see fit. As with anything, and even though locals will complain about the state funds that we send, the higher level government entity money, and then it comes back to them with a bunch of strings attached. I believe that the states are better able to address their needs without the strings attached to all of the money that comes from the

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Federal government. So we'll be looking at that.

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I don't -- I don't have any delusions that that's going to actually come to pass, but it sure would be a nice thing for the states to get some more control of that gas tax money.

My goal for this next session is to continue to work on the ear-marking issue. To continue to set aside sales tax into transportation.

The tax Commission says about 17 percent of our sales tax comes from vehicle purchases and related to vehicles. I think that ought to be our goal, is that that money goes directly to transportation. And so we'll be working on that. And that, by the way, is not a tax increase. That's just a shift in the dedication of existing revenue, which, as a Republican, that's always good for me, if you don't have to raise a tax. So with that, thank you very much.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Representative Lockhart.

Turning from state issues to the perspective of the Metropolitan Planning Organization, today with us, here with us today is Mayor Dennis Nordfelt. Mayor of West Valley City, and the current chair of the Wasatch Front Regional Counsel.

Mayor Nordfelt was the Utah Highway Patrol

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superintendent from 1981 to '87. He has been the mayor of West Valley City since 2002. He is also the vice-chairman of the Salt Lake County Council of Governments.

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Thank you very much, Mayor Nordfelt, for being here with us today. You have five minutes.

MAYOR DENNIS NORDFELT: Thank you.

Lieutenant Governor. Members of the Commission. Thank you for this opportunity.

Lieutenant Governor. You're a piker. We just had our 27th grandchild, and I've reached the point that it doesn't cost me any sleep at all when one of them comes. I just wait until the next morning.

Commissioners, I don't think I'm going to tell you anything you don't already know. I don't plan to. And I really want to be helpful. I don't want to make your very difficult job even more difficult. I acknowledge that you have a great responsibility, and a great opportunity.

I just want to make a few comments from the perspective of a local elected official, as well as from the Metropolitan Planning Organization. And I'll try and differentiate when I've got my MPO hat on and when I've got my mayor's hat on.

And I see that we have Mayor Crane from

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Herriman, and I saw Mayor Newton come in from West

Jordan back there. And Mayor Wall from Taylorsville,

and Mayor Money from South Jordan. All of the west

side mayors, through which the Mountain View Corridor

will pass, or come close to.

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And I want you mayors to remember the instructions that you were given, to use decorum.

I do have some personal opinions, and they will be different from my representation from the region council.

As you know, the Wasatch Front Region

Council works with UDOT, UTA, and the other MPOs in

determining what transportation projects are needed in

the state, and in the region.

Our long range transportation plan has identified the projects that we believe are needed in the region in the next 25 years.

One thing that is hard for people to understand is that if all of these projects were built, every single one of them, on the plan, were built, it would not reduce congestion. And people say, Well, why do you have a plan that doesn't reduce congestion? And the reason is because the plan has to be financially constrained. All of the projects that are on this long-range transportation plan cannot be funded

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with the existing sources for transportation revenue.

It's going to take additional revenue to fund those.

And if you do fund those, or if they are funded, it still will not alleviate congestion.

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So in order to be constrained, the Wasatch
Front Regional Council and the Mountain Land
Association of Governments, two years ago, did an
unprecedented thing. We passed a joint resolution that
was unanimously approved by both MPOs. And we
identified some ways of raising money for
transportation projects in that resolution. And those
ways of raising additional revenues included tolling
and HOV lanes, along with other things.

Now, I'm sure that it won't come as news to you that tolling, especially for the Mountain View Corridor, is a controversial issue. I don't know of anybody that's really out lobbying saying, You've got to toll us. You've got to toll us. Nobody's doing that.

There's some that understand that that might be necessary, and there are some that are even saying it would be okay to do that, but nobody's lobbying for it.

I would recommend a couple of things that, if you do decide to make the Mountain View Corridor a

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toll road, I would recommend two things that you do in addition to that. Not that you do, but two things that could be done.

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And one is something that you, as commissioners, have no control over, but Representative Lockhart and the Legislature does have control over that. And that is that in addition to those things that have already been done, that other things can be done by the Legislature, to raise additional revenues. It would be more palatable to those people that would use the Mountain View Corridor if they would know -- if they knew that other things that can be done are being done to fund transportation infrastructure.

The second thing is something that you, as commissioners, do have some control over, although I know that it's easier said than done. And that is to -- if you identify the Mountain View Corridor as a tolling facility, identify some other projects as tolling facilities at the same time. So that you're not showing that one toll road, and impacting one group of people. It would be well if it could show that tolling would impact everyone in the state, if that is, in fact, what you are going to do.

Speaking as the mayor of West Valley City, I

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would like to see some additional consideration given to local funds. I know that we get the B and C road funds, but I'm sure I don't just speak for myself, but throughout the state, the cities and the counties are using their general funds. Funds that could be well used to provide other city services like law enforcement, and fire protection, and repairing the potholes in our streets, that we're using our general funds to keep up with the growth, and we need additional opportunities for funding at the local level as well.

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I'll give you two conclusions. One from the Wasatch Front Region Council, and that is, as a council, we have taken no position with regard to tolling of the Wasatch -- or of the Mountain View Corridor. We do believe that tolling is an option that needs to be looked at.

My personal opinion is that, given the cost of the Mountain View Corridor, how much that project is going to cost, if it's going to be completed in a timely manner, I recognize that innovative methods for funding that corridor are going to have to be used.

And that may include tolling. And if it does, I would rather have a toll road than no road at all.

Thank you.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Mayor Nordfelt.

Next we will hear from Commissioner Larry
Ellertson of the Utah County Commission. Commissioner
Ellertson was the mayor of Lindon City from 1996 to
2005. Currently serves as the Utah County Commission
chairman, chairman of the Utah County Council of
Governments, and chairman of the Utah State Citizen
Corps Council.

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Thanks very much, Commissioner Ellertson, for being here with us today. You have five minutes.

COMMISSIONER ELLERTSON: Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity of being here today. I don't know that I appreciate being "here" today, however.

I think this is obviously something of great import to us in our state, as we look at the issue of transportation funding, and how we crack that nut, so to speak.

I commend the efforts of the Legislature over the past few years, first off, for recognizing the need to look at the issue, and identifying some of the possibilities that we have, or that we may need to consider in terms of funding.

One of the things that they did is they identified a problem in terms of a gap in the amount of

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funding that will be available over the next -- well, at this point we're probably about 24 years, but I think between now and 23. And that's a significant amount of money.

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I think the premise that I would leave with you today --

First off, I need to give this -- this disclaimer. Understand that, as I speak, I can't speak for anybody other than myself. I have to have at least one other vote, generally speaking. And in the case of representing counties here today, there are 29 different counties. So I'll give you some general information, but most of what I'm going to say is Larry Ellertson's take on what I've heard on this task.

The think that what I think is important for us to understand is regardless of the way that we choose to fund Mountain View Corridor, or any of our other transportation needs, that when -- at the end of the day, it's you and me that pay for everything.

Nobody else does. The consumers, the taxpayers pay for it all. Tolling isn't really a silver bullet in the sense that somebody else is paying for it. They're funding it up front, but you and I are going to pay for it. And I think we all need to understand that. Some way, we're going to pay for it, whether it's sales tax,

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whether it's fuel tax, whether it's a toll, whatever it may be.

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With that in mind, I think it's important that as we look at the decision of tolling, that we understand the potential for the precedent that may be set, and say, is that really the road we want to go down as we look to the future of transportation funding?

At some point in time, we've got to step up and be willing to admit the fact that we've got a serious problem. Sometime, we need to say that we've got to have -- I guess, doing some quick math, the equivalent of a two-cent sales tax that will raise about a billion dollars a year to go into solving our long-range problem.

How's the best way of doing that? Do you want to do it as you drive on the road, or do you want to share the fact that everyone benefits in the roads, regardless of where they're built? Even though Washington County may say they don't benefit by a general tax in terms of it being applied to Mountain View Corridor, I think the suggestion would be that there are many dollars that have gone to Washington County from the Wasatch Front to help them fund their roads over the past years, and will continue to in the

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So do we do it from a general standpoint, or do they do it from tolling? Either way, we're all going to pay for it. And I would hope that we could look at it, as we go to the future, and say, How's the best way of funding this billion-dollar-a-year need that we have?

Mountain View is part of that.

It's important, I think, that as we go forward in any funding mechanism, that we discipline ourselves to use science and good judgement in determining the priority and the placement of dollars to be spent. We don't need to waste it.

Everyone wants their share. I understand. That's why we need to depoliticize, if that's a word, the process of allocating dollars to fund our transportation needs, and use the good science that puts it where it really needs to be. And I believe that we will all benefit from it, the entire state, if we once do that.

We -- whether I use a road, whether I use a bus or not, I benefit from the fact that someone else does; and, therefore, I'm willing to help pay for that. I think we need to look at that as we address this question.

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Thank you.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you to our panelists.

I'd like to turn the time over to Commissioner Brown to facilitate follow-up questions from the Transportation Commission.

Commissioner Brown.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you. We appreciate, again, the efforts of our panelists, for your insight and your input today.

I think I'll probably start with

Commissioner Lewis, if he has any questions, and maybe
go around the group here.

Commissioner Lewis?

Maybe make sure you address your question to who you'd like to respond, or whether you want all of them to respond.

COMMISSIONER LEWIS: Thank you, chairman.

I did have a question. I was wondering, in regards to the financing on the Legislature, the reasons that they were not interested in a gas tax increase, and their -- it's a user fee, and I was just wondering what that -- what would be -- whoever would like to answer that.

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: Whoever.

As the task force looked at gas tax -- you

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know, we've always relied on the gas tax. That's basically what funds what all of you do on the Commission. The gas tax, especially in Utah, not so much in other places, but in Utah, it's a per-gallon flat fee, if you will. It's not attached to inflation. It's not -- it has no growth factor at all. So every time we put a nickel on, within just a few years, you lose any increment growth capacity to have it be -make a difference. And so that's one of the problems with it. And frankly, politically speaking, do a nickel gas tax, that's a hit to the Legislature. The Legislature, you know, just raised your taxes a nickel per gallon. But if you then -- if you then attach a sales tax, or you index it for inflation, then -- I see maybe someone from the press is here. -- then every single year, the Legislature raised your taxes. Because it goes up with inflation. So politically speaking, it's a hard sell.

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Second, we have more fuel efficient vehicles, alternate fuel vehicles, that don't pay the gas tax, if you will. And I believe we will come to a time when many people will have natural gas, or electric hybrid, and they're going to pull their car into the garage and plug it in, or, you know, fill it up, and never pay a gas tax, or pay a very minimal gas

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tax, the gas tax that we're used to. But they're driving just as much as everyone else. And so, for those reasons that I believe the gas tax is dying as a -- as the revenue source that we need to rely on, and we need to look at other options.

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COMMISSIONER LEWIS: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Wilson.

COMMISSIONER WILSON: Representative

Lockhart, on the surplus in the state budget, how do

you see that being distributed out, and is there a

likelihood that transportation needs will participate
in those surpluses as they are today, or could be in

the future?

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: As I mentioned before, a TIF is outside of the spending cap, and -- as well as public ed. And so I think you will see, because of the surpluses, which is a word I use very loosely, because it's more complicated than just saying you have a surplus, because it's in various different places. But I believe you'll see increases significant in public ed, and hopefully in transportation.

One of the -- one of the stories that needs to be told, and what we, as people who care about transportation need to make sure happens, is that legislatures understand the job is not done. That the

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money that can't be spent, if you will, under the spending cap, instead of looking at raising the spending cap, or putting it in other places, there's somewhere they can put it, and it's called transportation. And isn't that great? Because that's where it needs to go.

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And so I'm going to be making that case.

Others who care about this issue are going to be making that case. We just need more people to get that message out so that case is made. Because those are the two areas where we can put surplus money, outside of the cap.

COMMISSIONER WILSON: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Bodily.

COMMISSIONER BODILY: I'd like to direct this question to Mayor Nordfelt and Commissioner Ellertson.

You represent two counties that had initiatives on the ballot this week.

By the passage of those initiatives, do you feel that there might be an expectancy on the part of the citizens of your counties to resist a tolling proposition on the Mountain View Corridor, inasmuch as they'll feel like they've -- they've stepped up and made their contribution? Are we, by going to tolling

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there, would we be ganging up on them, so to speak, and demanding money from two different sources?

MR. NORDFELT: The answer is yes. I do anticipate that. And it's a legitimate position.

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25 percent of the additional funds that will be raised by the passage of Proposition 3 in Salt Lake County will be dedicated to purchasing right-of-way for the Mountain View Corridor. So then if you have to pay again to use it, you've had to pay twice to use that particular facility. So it's a legitimate position for the citizens of Salt Lake County to take.

COMMISSIONER ELLERTSON: I certainly wouldn't contradict what my good friend Mayor Nordfelt has said. I think the key in all of this is to educate the public, and help them better understand, one, what the problem is; and secondly, how they play into it. I don't know that they would make necessarily different decisions than we would make, if they knew the information, had the information, but I think there is a tendency, certainly in Salt Lake County, to believe that they have stepped up in terms of their investment in Mountain View. Utah County isn't as directly involved in that regard. I don't know if that particularly would play into their thinking, but I think it definitely would here in Salt Lake.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: Tom, would you like to respond to that same question?

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MR. WARNE: Yes, I would. And it's an interesting question, because we can then present the case, where does the public choose one or the other.

And as I thought through the 48 initiatives, and not all had a direct correlation or relationship between a toll road and another initiative to raise funds, say, from a sales tax, but they actually seem to have been very independent, as I think through the initiatives around the country, where people seem to support a toll on a particular project, but they also seem to support a ballot initiative for a sales tax for other work. They seem to be able to separate the two and recognize the difference.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Wells.

COMMISSIONER WELLS: This question is for

Tom. I'm just wondering, you talked about 50 different

methods for raising dollars for funding for

transportation. I'm just wondering if you could talk a

little bit about the 40 that you related, and what some

of the percentages are that -- why they're the big

four. I'd like people to understand that. And I'd

also like you to just tell us a little about the

general attitude of tolling that you've encountered, as

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you've traveled about the country.

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MR. WARNE: We did this study, and there were about 50 different ways to raise money. And the top four generally end up being the gas tax. And as Representative Lockhart has suggested, that has been a standard revenue stream for us for many years. But it's one, a declining revenue in the sense of its buying power, but also here in the state.

A nickel gas taxes raises 60 million. And when you start to think of the context of 60 million versus over \$20 billion worth of needs, you start to -- to put it effective, you have to go way beyond a nickel gas tax to make a dent on anything here. And so while it does raise a lot of money, it doesn't raise enough. And there is a significant amount of cost to doing that.

The sales tax is a very popular initiative around the country right now. We've used it somewhat here, and the initiatives have been focused on transit. But around the country, in fact, I would suggest that there are far more funds raised through sales tax for highways than there is for transit.

When we look around the country, the billions of dollars, just in the Bay area alone, in 2004, they raised almost \$20 billion via sales tax for

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highway projects as opposed to transit projects. So you have to be able to differentiate it in sales tax is not just a transit-oriented revenue stream.

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The other one, indexing, probably falls on the low end of all four. While it raises more than signs on buses, it's not a significant revenue stream. And you tend to hit a lot of different people doing that.

And finally, what's happening around the country, as people recognize Federal funds aren't going to solve their problem, and you can just raise the sales tax just so much, and the gas tax just so much, the trend is on a user type system. And so you're seeing the tolls become a more and more prevalent revenue stream, recognition by people that that's a way to pay it. I think the comment that was made just a moment ago, no matter how you raise the money, there's only one place you get the money from, and it's really how you raise it. It all comes from us at the end of the day.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Warnick. COMMISSIONER WARNICK: Several questions, but maybe let me follow up specifically with Tom, and your comment.

When we were in Texas, they used to talk

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about free roads and toll roads. The comment was made, there's really no free roads. And I think that's a very important point, Mr. Ellertson, that you made.

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Tom, do you have any specific examples of roads similar to Mountain View that -- where this kind of a discussion is being held, and whether the decision has been made to toll or not to toll in other states?

Is there anything that comes to mind that might be representative of this?

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ WARNE: Identical to the Mountain View, I -- there are some that are similar.

washington State is looking at tolling some existing corridors, for example. Colorado continues to toll some new corridors there. Texas is tolling new corridors. The state of Virginia, for example, is very advanced in public/private ventures, and using tolls there. So there are lots of initiatives there. Some are related to brand new corridors, some are related to existing corridors. There are actually quite a few examples. And when you start to talk about Mountain View, you create a hybrid of all of the other examples that are around here.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Anything else,
Commissioner Warnick?

COMMISSIONER WARNICK: Yeah, maybe just a

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Mayor Nordfelt, you mentioned that the MPO has not taken a position with respect to tolling of Mountain View; however, you also heard just maybe to consider other roads. Were there any specific roads that the MPO discussed that might be candidates for tolling that we should be considering along, at this time?

MAYOR NORDFELT: I'm not aware of any within our region. I know that there's a planned project in Washington County that appears to be a likely candidate, but I'm not aware of any other in our region.

My personal preference would be to toll I-15, but I know that's not possible.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Millington?

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Thank you.

Both Mayor Nordfelt and Commissioner

Ellertson mentioned that there -- we ought to do other

things to raise money, or -- that was from Mayor

Nordfelt. Commissioner Ellertson said, Is tolling

really the precedent that we want to set? If we don't

toll, where do we get the money? Because it's either

tolled or taxed. And can you give us any comfort that

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politicians would have the appetite or the stomach for raising taxes if we don't toll?

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COMMISSIONER ELLERTSON: Can I give you any comfort? I don't know that I can. I think it gets back again to what I mentioned a minute ago, on the education. I think part of the reluctance on the part of the politicians to tax is the reaction that you get from the public. And I'm not saying that's incorrect, I'm just saying that we need to make sure that we're all understanding this problem, and looking at it from the same way. That's not an easy thing to do.

In terms of the first part of your question, where would this come from? I know that, as I look at taxes that I pay, and I know that this doesn't square with everyone, but probably the one that seems to fit, and fit in this situation, may be a general sales tax. Because everyone that uses the roads, the tourists and everyone else, helps share that. It's not only the residents in the state of Utah that get to pay for that road.

And that being the case, if we all understood that, and we would take the bite. And as I said, I don't know that the math is 100 percent correct, but based on some information I have and doing some guick math, \$0.02 would be close to about the

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amount that I'm -- you know, to solve the nut that the Legislature identified in their study. Is that something that I want? It may not be. However, that may still be the one that I would prefer, over a tolling.

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See, I'm a cowboy, and I want the wide open spaces. I don't want to have to be gated and those kinds of things. I want to be able to ride where I want to ride, and not have to stop.

I was recently in Texas. And within the space of about three miles, I went through three toll booths. Do I want that? No way. I just question that that's really the way that people really want to fund their roads. And I think that if they understood that it's not free, everyone's going to pay, they may look for another source.

And I guess that's why I, you know, if you were to pin me down to a source, I'd like sales tax. I think what Tom just said, and I'll let him speak for himself, that raises a lot of money for roads.

MAYOR NORDFELT: I think the Legislature and the local elected officials have demonstrated a willingness to promote a tax for transportation infrastructure.

Just a little history on Proposition 3.

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Before it became a sales tax issue, it was a property tax issue. And the Salt Lake County council, at the urging of all of the mayors in Salt Lake County, I believe it was unanimous, asked the Salt Lake County council to put it on the ballot as a property tax initiative. We were hopeful, when we did that, that the Legislature would go into special session and would approve a sales tax to replace it. But we were ready, we were not bluffing. We were ready to go forward with a property tax initiative if we had had the opportunity for a sales tax. And I believe that it was also unanimous that all of the elected officials in Salt Lake County were in support of Proposition 3. And it appears that the majority of the voters were too.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner, any further questions?

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Well, I just wonder about the gas tax. Representative Lockhart has indicated that maybe gas tax is not the way to go. We've been hearing about the fuel-efficient cars for 20, maybe 25 years, and we're not very much closer, though recent breakthroughs and technology may be moving us in that direction. We're not getting there very fast.

A five percent or a ten percent gas tax

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increase could provide for \$60 million. I think, Tom, that's what you mentioned. Said 60 million a year. Over ten years, that provides a fairly significant amount of money. So I'm wondering why it is that, in the interim, a gas tax, which is perhaps similar to a sales tax, because it comes with consumption, might not be one of those stop gap measures that would be considered? It might not last forever, but at least in the short run it could serve to provide a significant amount of money for addressing the issue.

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Why wouldn't that be a -- one of the possible alternatives?

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: The trans -- the planning task force did take a look at gas taxes, and they are an option. My -- I'm trying to reflect some of what the Legislature feels in terms of the majority just doesn't feel that that's where we need to rely.

And your issue about -- you did bring up that maybe it would be temporary. I'm trying to think of a temporary tax. I can't think of one. Once we put one on, it's there. I hope someone can think of one. But taxes don't go away. They continue. And even if they have a ten-year limit, when you reach the ninth year, everybody finds a reason to keep it going. And so you extend it. Taxes don't go away. And so that's a

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I'm not ruling out completely gas tax as an option. I'm saying that in this environment, and as I've talked to colleagues and so forth, we don't want to, as a Legislature, continue to rely on the gas tax, and have the public and everyone else believe that that is the end all, and that is going to just pay for everything. But clearly, as a Commission, you know that it does not pay for everything.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: (Inaudible).

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: That is right.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: I have a couple of questions, if I might. I don't know how much time I have left.

Butch, maybe you could speak to this. As the statistics indicate, that there will be less and less of a role in terms of the Federal dollars. Do you see the Federal Highway Department pulling back in terms of oversight, or the rules, or hoops that have to be jumped through with these locally-funded roads? Do anything to facilitate lack of resources coming from Washington?

MR. WAIDELICH: Well, unfortunately, what's been happening the last few years with major projects around the country, for example, what's happened with

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Congress, they've actually been tightening the strings, as far as financial accountability.

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So if the last few years is any example of where we're heading, regardless of the sheer amounts coming from the Federal government, when Federal dollars are involved, I believe, at least the financial side of accountability will still have an oversight role. That tends to be the direction we're headed.

MR. KNOWLTON: Commissioner, we have five minutes.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Okay. I've got one other question.

The Legislature has authorized the Commission to consider tolling. May. I hope you understand the position it puts the Commission in in terms of making that decision, because we would only make that if the resources were not available to us.

At least that's my perspective as a commissioner.

We're not wanting to toll just for the sake of tolling.

We feel time pressure to meet the congestion problems, so -- and I guess I'd like anyone or all of you to respond to the issue of time. To me, that's an important component, as we're considering tolling on

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this Mountain View Corridor, is to get there quicker.

If we -- if we're okay for 20 more years, we don't need to talk as much about tolling as if you want it built in the next five years. So I think I'd like some -- I'd like you to respond how important you think the congestion issue is as it relates to Mountain View Corridor.

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MAYOR NORDFELT: Commissioner, I believe that the need -- and I'm speaking for West Valley City, but particularly -- but for Salt Lake County as well. The congestion is not caused by the lack of infrastructure for north and south traffic, it's caused by the lack of facilities for east/west traffic in Salt Lake County. And if there were other sources of funds available to improve the transportation situation, I would hope that that money would go first to improve the east/west congestion.

Now, I know that the Mountain View Corridor does have salutary effect on the east/west congestion, but not nearly as much as a -- as increasing highway capacity, and increasing transit east and west in Salt Lake County.

So while I do agree that we need other sources for transportation infrastructure, revenue sources, I'm not sure that they would first go to the

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Mountain View Corridor.

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MR. WARNE: Just a comment on that. Two points to remember here. One, congestion will never be less. It will be worse tomorrow, and it will be worse next month, and it will be worse next year. So that is one compelling reason to act sooner than later. The other reason is Mountain View corridor has \$2 billion, or something in that neighborhood. And even at a nominal inflation rate, you're probably looking at, what, \$80 million increase in cost for every year you delay it. I mean, that's -- the numbers are very compelling, just from a business standpoint, to act sooner rather than later.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Representative Lockhart?

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: I understand that the Legislature did put you in this position, but the Legislature itself did have to make that decision, that policy decision. Up until that bill, every decision, whether you toll or not, had to be brought before the Legislature, was extremely political. It's a, you know, who's area is being tolled? Who's not? Who's going to make the deal, et cetera, et cetera.

And we felt that it was better, as a Legislature, to make that policy decision, that, yes,

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tolling should be an option, and we're going to allow the Commission, who has a much broader vision of what the needs are, and where the critical needs are, where the growth is occurring, and looking at needs across the state to make that specific decision.

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But might I say that Mountain View Corridor will, if it is tolled, will toll a significant portion of northern Utah County. And so those citizens there need to be considered in terms of how they feel about tolling as well.

And I think you have some indication -- it was the tolling of the HOV lane, which, thank you very much, I have a sticker, and I enjoy it. I will pay my \$50 every month. I would be willing to pay more.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Thank you. Thank you very much.

REPRESENTATIVE LOCKHART: Thank you, Commissioner Millington, who, as you see, as you know, is from Utah County.

Utah County is in trouble. We have significant, huge, huge needs. We are in -- we're gridlocked. And you see, through -- it was Utah County, I believe, most strongly, legislators and commissioners and others, who encouraged you to look at the tolling of the HOV lane. Because we are desperate.

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And you'll continue to hear that desperation. When you're congested, when you cannot move goods and services, when it gets so bad, you will beg for tolling, because you need to move. And you are -- the toll is much less of a burden than sitting -- the lost opportunity. You're right, Commissioner.

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So I think you would find less resistance in Utah County. I represent northern Utah County, so you'd have to talk to them specifically. I can't speak for them. But we need options, and we need ways to get in and out of there. And our businesses need those options as well. Because we're just going to stifle activity if we don't -- if we can't move goods and services.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you.

Commissioner Njord, did you have one follow-up question? Are we out of time?

MAYOR NJORD: I was going to ask Mayor

Nordfelt, what do you think the expectations of the

citizenry is with respect to Mountain View? Is there

a view of when that will be constructed? Is there

some expectation out there?

MAYOR NORDFELT: I think -- I would have a hard time putting my finger on what the public expectation is. My own is that I hope sometime in my

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lifetime.

MR. WARNE: How long are you going to live?

MAYOR NORDFELT: At least a year.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: I think -- any other commissioners with any questions? I guess not. Then we'll turn that back to you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Commissioner Brown. And thank you to all of the panelists.

Okay. Now we turn our attention to the second group of panelists, who will discuss the tolling analysis findings as they relate particularly to the Mountain View Corridor.

With us here today is Matt Sibul, with

Parsons Brinckerhoff. He'll provide an overview of the

tolling analysis team and approach for the Mountain

View Corridor.

Jerry Nielsten, with Vollmer Associates, talking about toll rate determination, revenue projections, electronic toll collections, and operational issues for the Mountain View Corridor.

Also with us is Jeff Holt, with Goldman,
Sachs, providing an overview of the financial findings
of the Mountain View Corridor tolling analysis.

Teri Newell, the UDOT Mountain View Corridor project manager will provide -- discuss the approach to

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and the results of stakeholder input in the Mountain View Corridor analysis.

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And Matt Scott, with Parsons Brinckerhoff, will discuss economic development issues and trends along toll rods.

First we will hear from Matt Sibul. Matt Sibul currently works as the project manager of Parsons Brinckerhoff in Salt Lake City, overseeing and managing all of the day-to-day activities associated with the Mountain View Corridor.

Matt has a bachelor's of science in civil engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Thanks so much, Matt, for being here. You have five minutes.

MR. SIBUL: Thank you, Ted. I thought since I was sitting beside Ted he'd give me six minutes, but.

I want to talk a little bit about what we've been working on over the past ten to twelve months for this tolling analysis process. And it really has been an exciting, dynamic process, so.

All right. Really, we're -- we undertook what was basically a six-step process during this tolling analysis. And we'd broadened a couple of those six steps, because several of our family members can go into a lot more detail with each of those steps.

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One of the first things we did was to determine the technology for toll collection; whether it's cash selection, electronic toll selection, or ETC, or a combination of cash/toll collection.

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And what we determined from Mountain View, the going forward, the assumption was that it would be electronic toll collection. There wouldn't be any toll booths that will have to be stopped at to pay toll or anything. Jerry Nielsten is going to go into some of those details of how it would work.

The next thing we did was to determine how much the toll rate would be. How much would a driver pay as they drove down the facility.

The next step of the process was really to define the project, in terms of how long is it? Is the entire 40 miles built all at once? What are the number of lanes? Where are the interchanges? We got down to the details in terms of what types of structures are we looking at, as well as even things such as the pavement types. Is it concrete or is it asphalt? Because that all rolled into the project costs, which are, of course, an important component of defining the project.

The next thing that we did was use the local -- the Wasatch Front Regional Council and Mag Travel Model, to actually determine the number of cars,

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the number of vehicles that will be driving on the facility.

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And we had to do a couple of things there to customize the model to apply it to Mountain View, when we looked at tolling the facility. And mainly, that was because when we started out, the model didn't actually -- wasn't able to accommodate tolling. So we had to customize and build that parameter from the ground up, for the regional model.

Another thing that we did, and Matt Scott and his group worked on this, looked at the impacts relating to the economic development that was projected in and around the corridor over the next 30 to 40 years, and either validate or slightly adjust those numbers based upon a number of factors which related to things such as doing interviews with developers, working with real estate consultants, and so on.

So that was our travel demand model. And that actually gave us the number of cars that were on the facility. Then we went through a process of estimating the toll revenue, or the actual stream of cash that was coming in to the facility.

And Jerry Nielsten, with Vollmer &

Associates, is going to go through some of those

details. We took all of those parameters, and -- this

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was a very iterative process. There was a lot of back and forth in and among these different steps, that all fed into a financial model. And that was something that Jeff Holt did at Goldman, Sachs, really gave it the structure of the capital markets and so forth, to determine what kind of money would be available to offset project costs up front.

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So that's the process that we follow during this tolling analysis.

Just a couple of basics about our baseline that we defined as our baseline scenario. It's one that would be state owned, state developed, and state operated.

And that's opposed to a different kind of development, which, again, we ran an analysis on that. State owned. It's leased to a private entity over a certain number of years. It's privately developed, and then also it's privately operated. And there were a number of different terms that are used to describe this. Sometimes it's a P3, or a public/private partnership, vendor agreement. There are a number of different terms that are used to describe that.

Just rolling through, again, some more of our assumptions. Again, the baseline assumed it's state owned, developed, and operated. We assumed that

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the entire facility would be built. The entire roadway from I-80 in Salt Lake County down to I-15 in Utah County. You'd look at a couple of scenarios of phasing it, but we defined our baseline just as that. A project cost for the baseline is just under \$1.8 billion, as you can see.

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Again, we did assume 100 percent electronic toll collection. So no toll booths.

And then Jerry is going to go into details of this, but our toll rate, an open rate of 2013, for purposes of this analysis were assumed to be \$0.11 per mile on off peak, and .20 per mile during the peak period of the commute.

Just in a nutshell, again, with that baseline toll scenario, with the project costs of 1.78 billion, we determined that tolling would cover just about two-thirds of that tolling cost, leaving a gap of about \$640 million.

I've already talked a little bit about what Jerry and Jeff are going to cover. We've also received a tremendous amount of tolling input. And we've reached out to the public a lot in the last eight to ten months relative to tolling. Teri is going to cover that.

And then another thing we've gotten

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questioned about a lot is how does a toll road, how would a toll road, or how does a toll road affect the economic development within that toll rod corridor. So what Matt Scott has done with our team is pulled together a number of case studies around the country that actually addresses that particular issue.

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So with that, I think that's all for me.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you. Gerry Nielsten is the partner-in-charge of most of the Vollmer's -- with Vollmer Associates. He's in charge of Vollmer's transportation and traffic planning, economic feasibility, and environmental studies.

Mr. Nielsten has worked on a number of toll facility projects in a variety of states. He has a bachelor of arts in engineering from Dartmouth College, bachelor of engineering and transportation design from Thayer School of Engineering. With us today is Gerry Nielsten.

MR. NIELSTEN: Good morning. Nice to be here.

I've been asked to translate my 35 years of experience and traffic and revenue studies, and turn you all into traffic engineers in the next four and a half minutes, so I'll do my best. We're going to focus a little bit, if I can find the right button. Bottom

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left. There we go. Toll rates.

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If I were sitting here 50 years ago, we would say, use one cent per mile and be done. If I were sitting here 30 years ago, we'd say use \$0.04 a mile and we'd be done. Because, as we saw the chart earlier, construction costs outpaced general cost inflation, we are forced to look at, say, toll rates, at much higher levels and much more carefully than we've ever done. The chart on my left is underlying foundation of how toll roads function. That is, the user chooses to pay a fee to save time.

As the fee goes up, fewer users choose to pay that fee, and therefore traffic declines.

In the hypothetical case, the shape of the curve is the one that I've made up for our purposes.

The rate of the decline is the relative elasticity of the traffic change. And this example for this case, if I double the toll from \$0.25 to \$0.50, and it drops 20 percent in traffic, that's a relative elasticity of double of 20 percent.

If one were to take this same hypothetical curve, and then multiply the traffic at a given point times the toll rate, you get the revenue. Well, that's very simple. So at a quarter, a hard vehicle gets \$25.00. Vehicles at a dollar gets \$72, et cetera. So

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you plot effectively, not only the traffic along the same toll rate curve, you plot the revenue. And this curve, it helps us to build the appropriate optimal tolls.

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At the low end of the curve, and virtually all of the mature toll roads in the United States are at the low end of the curve; \$0.01, \$0.02, \$0.03 per mile. When you increase tolls, because you're at the high portion of the curve, you effectively receive a full -- a highly efficient use of the revenue. curve's linear and very sharp. As you increase the curve over time, more people are leaving the road, in this case because of the toll change, the amount of revenue you're getting, so the curve starts to look at a lesser pace and go up. In fact, at some point it becomes absolutely flat. That is, you increase tolls, but you have no additional increase in revenue. If you go beyond the critical point in curve, the curve turns downward. You increase tolls to the point you receive less revenue than you did prior to the toll going up.

So it then leads itself to the question, what's the right place for the toll to be at a given point in time? And there are two points to look at. The highest revenue point is highlight A here. the absolutely highest point of revenue of the curve.

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Well, you really don't want to be there for a couple of years. One, as good as I am, I'm not perfect. And the whole idea of predicting a future revenue curve in the year 2030 is somewhat problematic. So you want to assume that in the forecast, a bit of a range within them, and give yourself the opportunity to get additional revenue, should it be required for any purpose. So you would set the optimal point of the curve below the highest point, and that gives that you range of flexibility as you're going into the future purpose.

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So I picked, in this hypothetical example, the place you'd want to be. How does this apply then to the Mountain View Corridor? These are the track mile outputs for applying the toll rates in 2030. And the rates we're talking about are, in fact, in \$2,000.

So what we're trying to do is look at the same shape of the curve and where we want it to be. It looks like the highest point of the curve is about \$0.24 per mile, but the optimal point, the B point I suggest, is probably \$0.20 per mile. And that really applies for peak periods. So that's the recommendation we made as the basis for our underlying efforts.

How does it relate to other facilities?

Again, one cent per mile 50 years ago made sense.

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\$0.04, 30 years ago. Almost all new toll roads in the last ten years start at 15, moving up into the 20 to 30 cent per mile range. This is where construction costs place our current toll efforts.

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Just kind of broadly in terms of the actual traffic data themselves. This is a product of our work that shows you the traffic along each segment of road, by various toll rates that we're talking about. And, in fact, on the average, the likely traffic in the corridor is significant and substantial. The model itself has a number of limitations. We have statistics. It does not directly model commercial vehicles, so we're forced to assume the likely commercial use in the potential.

We've used what's been typical in most toll roads, which is about five to six percent commercial vehicles for new toll roads in this type of corridor. That produces about a ten percent revenue surge.

This is an average week-day model, so we have estimated weekend uses. We took statistics from the local areas, as well as other toll roads, to get our factor of 320.

This is an all electronic facility. That means those who didn't have a transponder who might want to use it, cannot use it. So we take a discount

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on that basis.

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We assume there will be some portion of time, when it's brand new, people will not know where it is, how it goes, how to use it, so there will be a discount of the newness of the facility.

And we also assume the toll rates that we could imply would increase with inflation over time to reflect the need for additional revenues. And that is virtually true of every toll road I've worked on in the last 15 years.

Regarding ETV, electronic toll collection.

This facility has no gates, no bars. The rider would never know where the toll collection is. You'll have a transponder or something else in your car that reflects that. But because of the fact that not everyone would have that in the early years, we made an assumption those who want to use it would not be able to, so we discounted the income stream for that. We put some real large discount in the early years, had some very small ones in the out years, assuming technology will change.

Ramp up. New roads suffer because, as they are put into a system, a large portion of the universe don't know where they are or where they go. You'd be surprised how often I go to a brand new toll road, and

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we'll be talking to someone, Where does that road go?

It's a mile from your house. I have no idea.

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So as a result of this newness, it takes five to six years off. And for a period, people don't know. We have incorporated some very significant ramp-up discounts to account for that. And if it were done as one package, it would happen once. If it were done in two phases, the ramp up would occur in two periods, as I show in this chart as an example.

Setting the tolls. I say we set the toll at a \$2,000 base. At \$0.20 per mile. We assume that the off peak periods would be half that rate. Or ten cents per mile.

It's also important in the early years of a product to encourage as much traffic as possible. We have to reduce the rate in the opening year down to a \$2,000 base of \$0.15 per mile, assuming that would increase disproportionate with time to get to an optimum toll rate to produce as much revenue as possible.

If you take those tolls and then apply them with the three percent inflation rate, you see the escalating tolls, which, as Matt mentioned, were \$0.23 peak hours, \$0.11 off. Our opening year, increase over time.

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If you take the traffic from the traffic model, the toll rates I discussed, the revenue implication of that, in the early years, 2013 or so, was about five to \$8 million per year; and 2022, about \$90 million per year; in 2030, about \$165,000,000 per year. These revenues then get put into financial miles, which Jeff Holt will discuss right now.

Thank you very much.

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MR. KNOWLTON: I hope you got all of that.

There's going to be a test on that material during the break.

Next with us, to provide another overview of the financial findings of the toll analysis, is Jeff Holt, the vice president of the municipal finance department of Goldman, Sachs & Company. Mr. Holt currently serves as the senior investment banker for many large transportation and infrastructure projects throughout the United States and the world. Grateful to have you here today, Jeff.

You now have five minutes.

MR. HOLT: Thank you for inviting me today.

The charge that we received as an advisor to the team was to take the exuberance in the marketplace today over the potential for public/private partnerships that has been demonstrated in the Chicago

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Skyway and in the Indiana toll road, and in other places like New Jersey, where they are currently trying to figure out how to sell, or concessions out their turnpike in the Garden State Parkway, and look at that particular alternative and see if there was any hope of some sort of a multiple effect through a concession model, versus a traditional tax exempt funding model, and see if either or both of those were feasible for the Mountain View Corridor. Taking all of the traffic data, revenue data, and cost data and putting them into our models, to determine, you know, what the financial feasibility then is for these projects.

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So our results on a full build scenario were that -- and that Matt said earlier, we have a funding gap under a traditional tax exempt financial route, which we'll get into very specifically. There is a gap of \$641 million. Under a concession route, \$502 million.

The specifics on the traditional tax exempt toll financing analysis are essentially a senior subordinated structure. Where we sell -- we sort of give a first claim on toll revenues to the senior lien bonds, senior debt bonds. Those are investment grade, which means they're triple B minus or better in terms of the rating agencies. They're also tax exempt,

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because they're for a public purpose.

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We can use capital appreciation bonds.

That's a technical term for a zero coupon bond, which allows us to defer interest during these ramp-up periods where people are getting to know where the road is and whatnot. We need some of that to -- and during the construction period, when there's no revenue, we need some of that interest deferral. It's very important in a greenfield toll road like this.

Coverage ratios at two times debt service reserve funds. An interest rate of 1.25 percent is the average. And it's a 40 year term, so the debt is 40 years.

And we layer onto that a very important program that gives us an additional leverage, and it stretches the dollars a little bit further, which is the Federal Government's TIFIA program.

TIFIA is a very good program, and I've done it in a number of places. The TIFIA program is perfect for a start-up toll road like this. And it basically lends on very favorable terms, on a subordinated basis. Those are subinvestment grade, which means we couldn't sell those as investment grade securities, but the Federal Government will take those as a direct loan.

So, in a way, it's an indirect subsidy from the Federal

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Government. There is a 35 year term on that. The market rate is 30-year treasury is flat. So that's an amazing pricing for such an instrument.

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This is the way the revenue curve has been distributed amongst the debt instruments and operation and maintenance. And you can see the red line is the projected revenue from the toll road.

It's pretty amazing how it ramps up. And the growth is so steep.

The two sections on the bottom are operation and maintenance and capital expenditures. You have to do certain renewals for replacement of the roads, and resurfacing and that sort of thing over a period of time. So those are the dark blue at the bottom and the light blue on top of that.

And then we have our two debt components, just our regular tax exempt bond in dark green, and the TIFIA structure in light green. You can see the Federal government is pretty forgiving. They'll allow a very back-end loaded structure there.

But this case gets us a six -- still -- still, when we lever that revenue curve, and you can see we've used it all up for the next four years, you can see that we still have a \$641 million gap.

The toll concessions analysis. We tried to

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figure out, then, okay, what's left to give to an equity investor? And as you can see, we're going to use similar instruments; senior debt, tax exempt, because we can use the private TIFIA bond program that the Federal government allows. A private access to a government service toll, you can still use tax exempt bonds. We don't get the capital appreciation bonds. We have to use a taxable component in there.

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Everything else is pretty much the same.

40-year deposit, and we layer TIFIA on the top of that at the same interest rates. And then we add an equity component, which basically uses all of the rest of the revenue that's left for the next 99 years. And that's all done at the 12 percent return on equity.

They do have to pay taxes on this road. And you can see how we carve up -- somehow it took too long to load that one.

Well, let me give you the -- I just want to show you one particular piece before I carve it up, I guess. This was -- if you can see, in the very front end, we have two years of preconstruction, three years of construction, five years of ramp-up. There's almost no revenue there. So the financial instruments you have to put into play are really playing to the front end of that curve where you're trying to build up

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ridership and whatnot. Very important differential in existing toll road versus a -- versus a start-up toll road.

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This is a -- this is how, then, the concession model builds up against the revenue curve. The same kind of operation and maintenance components, the senior debt service and the TIFIA component. But you can see that the equity dividend, which is the light blue, sort of takes everything else. And that one significant component that's added in the back are taxes. And it's a pretty tremendous amount of taxes that then get paid ON the road at the end.

In this case, you can raise an additional \$200 million in equity, and the funding gap drops to \$502 million. Now, the math doesn't exactly tie, because your senior lien debt is less efficient under this model, so you lose a little bit of efficiency there. But the bottom line is THAT the funding gap does drop from 641 to \$502 million if they do that, but the tolls go out from 40 years to 99 years in terms of how much of the toll stream we use.

I'll leave it there and then answer any questions in the Q and A. Thank you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Jeff.

I did want to let you all know that the

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presentations today will be made available on the Mountain View Corridor official Web site, and we will get you the address later in the session today.

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Next with us is Teri Newell. Ms. Newell is the project manager at the Utah Department of Transportation responsible for the Mountain View Corridor Environmental Impact Statement.

Ms. Newell has a bachelor's of science degree in civil engineer from Iowa State University.

Thanks, Teri, for being with us today. You have five minutes.

Thank you, commissioners, MS. NEWELL: again, for giving us time to speak about this subject.

I'll just walk you through a little bit of where we've been in our public process.

When we first started talking about analyzing tolling and looking at it for Mountain View Corridor specifically, we started talking about it at our meetings we had with the public. And I think there was some concern and maybe a lack of understanding as to why we would even consider tolling.

So one of the things we decided we needed to do was really talk to the public about why. Get the facts out in front of them. So what we did was structure a series of public meetings, we called town

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hall meetings. And over the course of the summer, probably May through July, we held a series of 15 different town hall meetings. We held a series of 15 different, what we call town hall meetings.

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The town hall meetings were structured so that we could go to each city. We decided it needed to be customized to each city. Went to each city, did about 15 minute presentation of what the funding situation was, and why we were even considering tolling in the first place.

One of the important pieces of that was, we had participation from the city officials, from the legislators. That was a key piece to that process as well.

What we found out through those meetings is that the most successful meetings were ones where we had, again, the city officials, the legislators there. We had members of the Commission there. We were able to have a really good dialogue about the transportation funding issues. And I think that's what the public ultimately expects of us.

What we find is they don't really know ultimately who's responsible for each decision, they just want to know that we're all working together to solve the problems.

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And I think that's part of what led us to this type of meeting today, was the idea to get everyone together, and really discuss the issues, get the facts out in front of everyone, so we can all work to a solution that the public expects us to.

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So you can see the turnout from our meetings. We had, on average, about 40 to 50 people at each meeting over the course of the summer. At the town hall meetings alone we reached out to nearly 600 people.

In addition to that, we took that message out to numerous other groups. We met with six different chambers, met with the Board of Realtors, met with the Trucking Association Motor Carriers Advisory Board. We met with the editorial boards of the papers. We did numerous meetings with any group that was interested in talking with us.

What we tried to do is keep those meetings fairly informal, so that we could do questions and answer as well. But that dialogue, again, was really a key important piece to it.

What we heard from those meetings, just to sort of summarize it, feedback from those meetings.

Three key. We had concern over geographic alternative places like West Valley City and Lehi. A lot of the

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questions seemed to center more on the geographical alternatives than anything else.

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We also had concern about the property acquisition process. And then the other key factor was tolling. Again that varied in each city. So the individual discussions in each city were important, because the issues were different as we went through each area. Tolling did receive a mixed reaction. We did have people that were opposed to it, and were very diligent about attending the meetings. We had other people that did recognize, after the presentation, there was a need to look at it and consider it along with everything else.

The concerns in regards to tolling, the main issue that came out of that was fairness. And I think you've heard that already. If this project is the only one, that's viewed by the people that we met with as unfair. That was a basic issue.

Trucking industry concerns, related to the cost of doing business. A lot of questions that we had covered operations, the cost of it, revenue, ownership, sunset clauses. A lot of questions along those lines.

One of the other things that came out of this process is an awareness that we needed to be very transparent about these discussions. Again, that leads

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to the type of meeting we're trying to have today.

Gets the facts out there, let them be discussed in an open setting so people can really understand what the issues are that are in front of us.

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And I'll just end with quickly not going through this whole slide, but just to say that the public input is a very important part of this process. We have the results of the tolling analysis at this point. It has been provided to the Commission. And now I think the next steps are just the ongoing dialogue that we're encouraging today. Thank you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Teri.

Next with us today is Matt Scott, who will talk about present economic development issues and trends along toll road corridors.

Matt is with Parsons Brinckerhoff. He is an expert in market and market-based financial analysis, real estate, and transportation project development. He is currently the principal in charge of PB's tolling for the Mountain View Corridor. He has advised the Maryland Transportation on a \$600 million TIFIA Application to support toll facilities in Maryland.

We're grateful to have Matt Scott here today. You have five minutes.

MR. SCOTT: I should again express thanks to

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the commissioners. We've had a chance to take up your time on a number of occasions. This time, mercifully, we'll keep it brief.

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A very good question was raised in the course of the public outreach program Teri just described. And that was, in one way or another, if you have a toll road, are you economically disadvantaging a community or economically disadvantaging a region? And we've got, as you see on this slide, four-case studies that we've put together to discuss briefly.

We tried to pick situations where, number one, PB had hard access to factual information from the sponsors and owners of these projects, directly, and accumulated information efficiently.

Secondly, we had projects who were of similar size and scale to Mountain View.

And thirdly, that we had situations where, not to draw too tight of an analogy, but that the project served an essentially undeveloped corridor.

That is to say that perhaps there was some developments, perhaps there was emerging development, but at the end of the day there was a lot of open ground out there on the horizon.

And I will tell you that in the morning we had the investor presentations for E470 to raise funds

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to develop sections two and three, we chartered a plane with a colleague to fly the right-of-way to see that the farmers were keeping the cattle in the pens.

Really, that's no lie. Because you bring investors in town, and you show them a herd of cattle in the right-of-way, it tends to get a little tough.

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Turning to the first example, which is the I-270 corridor, which is indicated in blue. This week those colors have zero significance. Versus the Dulles corridor in northern Virginia.

It happens that these two corridors come under development, and coincidentally I-270, for those are you who know that area, that is not toll, it is a standard highway project, and the Dulles toll road, and the Dulles Greenway project are indeed tolled. Both corridors. And these are corridors, as defined by your local MPO and Washington, cover up 540 square miles.

Tax treatment is pretty much comparable.

It's between the state of Maryland, and the constituent jurisdiction as those in Virginia. So both were blessed with large quantities of suitably zoned lands.

Well served by utilities, and finally, strong school systems and other public services in both places.

We looked at the last 15 years, and kind of compressed it all into some slide and let job growth be

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The Maryland side, I-270 started off in a larger job base back in 1990, reported 75,000. In the ensuing 15 years, 88,000 jobs were entered the corridor. In fact in 1990, the Dulles corridor, as I designed it, had 229,000 jobs -- sorry 227,000 jobs; in the ensuing 15 years has added 229,000 jobs; principally in primary high-paying jobs that are providing enormous fiscal relief to the jurisdictions that are having to create service jobs to take care of the population's growth that's occurred at the same time.

Next, looking at the Dulles Greenway, in its -- in isolation, it was completed in 1995. It's essentially emerged into a commuter facility. It has very little truck traffic, very little truck usage, 14 miles long, two lanes in each direction. It served, in its opening day, largely undeveloped area in western Fairfax in Virginia.

If we look at development activity before the road opened, in the immediate preceding years there were approximately 875,000 square feet area of non-residential development being permitted in the corridor, and about 1,625 residential units.

In the years since opening, the

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non-residential and commercial building activity has averaged three million square feet a year, and residential permitting has risen to 3,400 units a year. A 3.4 and 2.1 times multiple.

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And this gives us a little bit of a profile on how that activity has spread over the years, both in terms of residential and non-residential.

Turning to E470, which is in the neighboring state of Colorado. Again, a circumferential highway, 47 miles long. As I said, virtually undeveloped, completed in '95 with the big segments, and then 2003, the final segment connecting to Interstate 25 to the north. It serves both as a commutation route, it also is an interregional facility, and it was, as I said, a substantially undeveloped corridor when it was opened.

There's been a lot of activity here.

Measured by the number of individual projects -- which these, by the way, are sourced to the E470 public highway. (Inaudible) lose track of this. The most stunning numbers, considering we're talking a 15-year period, are the development both for sale and rental of 150,000 residential units and 85 million square feet of non-residential space.

Last case. Foothill eastern in Orange

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County, California. Again, the characteristics noted They have a development impact fee district, provide a little information on this slide as how fees are collected. They range from two to \$4,000 per residential unit. \$3.50 up to \$5.80 on non-residential new development. Prior to the road opening completely, development impact fee collections, which are paid at the time the permit is pulled, so there's not a lot of time to fiddle around. This is real money in real Were running about \$7.6 million per year. And time. when, in the ensuing period, after the road was fully opened, they have moved up to 23 million a year. So, again, a measure of what does a toll road do for you? We chart that out. I wanted to put this one up here, because it's important to understand that the good Lord has not believed in us for business cycles, and even periods of great economic success, and activity, you still have periods of very deep troughs relative to peaks.

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In this case was when the industry, military industry in southern California essentially was completely restructured, and we lost tens of thousands of jobs in the state, and subsequently recovered.

In conclusion, I would say that certainly tolling versus non-tolling does not appear to create a

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prejudicial result. I think the more positive conclusion is that, as Representative Lockhart pointed out, at the end of the day, the efficient movement of people and services and goods and the abilities of people to get their employees, to get them to work on time in the morning and home at night on a timely basis seems to trump everything, and tolling and not tolling seems to get lost in the grounding.

Thank you.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Matt.

Thank you, to all of our panelists.

I'd like to turn the time over to Commissioner Brown.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: A question for Mr. Scott.

Is there, with all of the information that you have shared with us in economic growth and other things, has there been any indication along the lines of increased tax collections as a result of, for example, increased sales tax, increased gas tax, or other kinds of revenue sources to the state that come from the economic development that you have illustrated?

MR. SCOTT: Is this live? Yes, it is.

I don't have specifics that I can share with

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you in the sense of these strict numerics, but what we, in the course, particularly in southern California where we looked at the development which had all of the issues mentioned this morning, it was -- the development community, it became taxation, on top of taxation, on top of taxation.

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There had been substantial positive fiscal benefits. And by fiscal, I mean that which flows from expansion of the business base, expansion of the residential base, the taxation thereof, and, indeed, in southern California, they were almost at a crisis for many of these jurisdictions. And that road serves, if my memory recalls correctly, 52 constituent local jurisdictions that make up the transportation corridor, or agencies created at the least. And every one of those folks had to have the tough row to hoe, particularly in California. It's been pretty profitable with its employee benefits, and pension obligations, and the like. And to a large extent, that primary -- this surge in primary employment and business, and the business taxes that flowed, and the property taxes that flowed have been quite a lifeline in that community.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Thank you to Mr. Holt.

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On the issuance of bonds, zero coupon bonds and other strategies, you mentioned that there would be a five percent coupon rate, and a 40-year life.

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What's the effective duration of a bond, the economic life, if you will, the duration of a bond that has those parameters of say a five or a five and an eighth, I think you said 5.12, with a 40-year life?

MR. HOLT: Generally, if it's a current coupon bond, you know, a 40-year bond would be around, you know, 32 years. Something like that.

When you have to factor in -- in a structure like this, it's not one bond that we sell. It's a whole bunch of bonds. You'd basically sell bonds all along the curve. The structure requires a number of capital appreciation bonds. My guess is the duration of the entire mix is very close to say 35 to 37 years, when you add in all of those additional elements. So it's a pretty back-end loaded.

You saw the revenue curve. It's all out on the back end, so you really have to, you know, try to put a mix of instruments together that can endure that long and match up to those revenues.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: All right. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Warnick?

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Mr. Holt, while you're warmed up. I think when I first saw that, some of the numbers, I was quite surprised that after the implementation of a partnership, there were still a significant gap. I think 500 million, as I recall. Having heard all of the exciting things in Chicago and Indiana, I guess that surprised me. Why is that gap there? Could you maybe, on an elementary level, tell us?

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MR. HOLT: Yeah. Chicago Skyways, a road that's been around for a very long time, had \$400 million worth of debt on it. \$23 million of net free cash flow.

We took it to a process. We were the financial advisor to the city of Chicago, and the high bid was \$1.8 billion for the concessions. It was just a tremendous result. And then Indiana followed about a \$3.8 billion number for their tollway. These are seasoned roads. And that's really the main difference here.

These are seasoned roads with current cash flow. And the difference between the Mountain View Corridor and these other roads are, you know, current traffic versus projected traffic. And if, as you saw that one curve in terms of the back end, where the

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revenue, three years of new construction, five years of ramp-up, and then, you know, a few more years of not that great of cash flow. It could take 20 plus years for you to really catch up to the amount of financial accrual that occurs, you know, in a situation like this.

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If you have to just -- the simple math is this. If you have to buy -- if you have to borrow a billion and a half dollars to build a road like this, and, you know, it's -- you know, couponing it, you know, five percent, or thereabouts, you've got -- that's right. You've got \$65 million, or \$75 million of accrual every year. And you just have no revenue for ten years. I mean, none. None. You know?

So if you've got to on have it all up front and you're accruing that kind of a ticket, that just adds, and accrues, and continues to accrue to the balance.

So it's -- frankly, to the -- most people, it's amazing that anyone would take that gamble to begin with, and put all of that kind of money in up front that build that road. But it's a pretty solid investment.

The infrastructure is very popular. It's really just a matter of density now versus density on

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an existing road.

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COMMISSIONER WARNICK: One more question.

To Mr. Nielsten.

We talked a little bit about the technology. Is the technology available to where an individual making a short trip, say exit A to exit B, could be exempt from the toll?

MR. NIELSTEN: Absolutely. And it's changing rapidly. You have the current generations of toll collection. You'll have two more generations by the time this road opens in any case. And they will be more sophisticated, and (inaudible).

The answer is, it is there today in some degree. There will be more in the future.

COMMISSIONER WELLS: I just wonder if you could explain to us some, in a little more detail, what determines whether a toll road is a success or a failure.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Wells?

MR. NIELSTEN: Let me start that conversation then. It's interesting. Chicago Skyway. When I first started working the toll business in the early '70s, I did this research on all of the prior toll roads and how they were doing. And there were two or three major blatant failures. The worst failure was

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Chicago Skyway. They missed seven straight years of interest payment on their bonds, with no hope of ever recovering they were so far off.

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Somehow, 30 years later, it's the most successful toll road in history. Interesting perspective.

I think that you can, on success side, say if you can build a road and serve people, that in itself is its own success.

There is a financial component, and if you can -- and obviously if you miss the early financial payment, the bondholders are disturbed by the process.

If they catch up, in the case of Chicago Skyway or in the case of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, eventually you get past that short-term problem, and in the long-term it can be a very successful facility.

There are very few toll roads that make -- I mean, there have been \$100 billion of revenue financing in the last few years. There have only been a handful of minor problems in terms of major financial problems.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Bodily?

COMMISSIONER BODILY: You're probably well aware that Utah has not been a state where there's been a lot of tolling done. Tom Warne's graphic showed that we are one of the states that has tolling. As far as

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I'm aware, the only toll road we have is about a quarter mile long and charges a quarter.

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COMMISSIONER WARNICK: \$4 a mile.

COMMISSIONER BODILY: It's gone up.

COMMISSIONER WARNICK: \$4 a mile. I use it.

COMMISSIONER BODILY: What trends have you seen -- I guess Teri maybe would be well prepared to answer this as anyone.

Do you see any changes in attitude as this has progressed, as we have looked at possibility of tolling? Are the citizens warming up to it at all, or is there resistance building up to it?

MS. NEWELL: I think, as was expressed earlier, nobody's going to ask for a toll road. But I think the key element is letting them understand why we're even looking at it, and that's that we have this huge funding shortfall. That's been -- the main piece really is to make sure people understand that -- that we're struggling with the way to fund transportation for the future, and this is a possibility that we need to give some consideration, along with everything else.

Our biggest goal has been to let people understand that, so that they can have these good discussions. Have we seen attitudes changing? I'm not sure that we've seen attitudes change as much as

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that we've seen people become more open to having a good discussion about it, which is, I think, still where we're AT right now.

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MR. NIELSTEN: If I could supplement the question on a slightly different tangent.

I travel, and I've worked in most all of the states that we've shown on the chart that have toll roads at some point in my career. And everyone, as I go to a state that starts a new toll road says, Well, we're different. Our people don't respond the same way as the rest of the United States. And the answer is, they're really not. There are differences in the value of travel time, because there are differences in their income, and what they pay for a house. But to a large degree, people respond the same way. They are willing to pay a certain amount of money to save time. That's what the whole technical portion of the discussion is about.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Wilson.

COMMISSIONER WILSON: There's been quite a lot of talk about success on toll roads around the nation. And I guess, has there been any cases where they have just not worked? And if so, or on this proposed project, who is financially responsible for this project, say ten years, 15, 20 down the road, if

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tolling projections, traffic projection, revenue, just not -- things are just not coming together on this graph that you've showed us here?

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MR. HOLT: I'LL give you an example. The Orange County toll roads were a big number. And they were also capitalized in an environment where interest rates were very high. And a lot of their debt was subinvestment grade. It was a stretch to begin with. Their traffic projections came in at, I don't know, 50 percent or less. And so bondholders essentially are on the hook. And that's -- in that circumstance.

The bonds have been refinanced, I think both roads there, at least twice, and they're looking for a third time.

But the value is there now, and they've actually had concession offers to actually sell the road and diffuse all of their debt.

The counties are sort of struggling with, you know, whether or not they're going to allow that to happen, or if they're going to just try to figure out how to roll it one more time.

The beauty of a toll road is that every year that goes by you pick up one more year on the back end. So, you know, from a refinancing standpoint, what's

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happened in those roads is even though they've -they've gotten, you know, the revenue curve looks like
it's going to crash with the debt service at some point
in time, every time they get close, they have, you
know, passed a few more years, and they sort of roll it
to the back end.

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That's as bad a scenario as I've seen. I mean, there have been others where they've actually missed debt service payments over time. In those contexts, because the roads are set up non-recourse to a governmental agency, and are all focused on whether bondholders get paid or don't get paid, it's really the bondholders that are at risk.

In this particular structure that we've outlined, under either of the structures, they -- these bonds, and the financial instruments involved are non-recourse to any governmental agency as well here, so that they don't reflect on the state's credit rating, the Legislature is not responsible to make up any debt service payments, whatnot, if they're missed. The bondholders are given enough reserve funds and other coverages that they realize the risk they're taking.

The structure is here. The first stop off would be the Federal government, because of the TIFIA

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1 30 percent of the borrowing that's being done 10: 18: 45 2 here is through the Federal Government's TIFIA program. 10: 18: 48 3 So they would actually be the first dollar lost. 10: 18: 51 4 And then they would come in and say, Okay, 10: 18: 53 5 how can we work this out for you? Where do we push the 10: 18: 55 6 debt out to? You know, can we reduce the interest 10: 18: 59 7 Et cetera. And you sort of work something out rate? 10: 19: 00 8 with them. 10: 19: 03 9 If it gets really bad, then it starts 10: 19: 04 10 cutting into the bondholder's debt service. But the 10: 19: 06 11 way these are structured, that's pretty remote. 10: 19: 08 In 12 this case, practically speaking, it would be some sort 10: 19: 12 13 of a work-out situation with the Federal government. 10: 19: 14 14 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you. 10: 19: 16 15 Commissioner Lewis? 10: 19: 18 Do you have time for a 16 COMMISSIONER LEWIS: 10: 19: 21 17 couple of questions, or --10: 19: 22 18 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Sure. I think we did. 10: 19: 23 19 Do we have five minutes? 10: 19: 27 20 COMMISSIONER LEWIS: One question I had is 10: 19: 29 21 kind of a down to an individual thing, of what happens 10: 19: 30 22 if the individual doesn't have the electronic pass, so 10: 19: 34 23 to speak, for the tollway? Do they just get picked up 10: 19: 37

and go straight to jail, or what happens to them?

I'm going to respond

MR. NIELSTEN:

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generically, because I don't know what the -- the whole process we're doing that yet.

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The standard process for new toll roads particularly -- and it's interesting. If you're talking about the Texas experiment in Austin, 34 miles of road last week. And what they're doing is they have a user friendly approach. If you're in the wrong place at the wrong time, take a picture of your license plate. You made a mistake. If you apply for a transponder, we'll give that credit against the -- what we would charge you otherwise. So they're really trying to turn people from violators to users and customers over time. And the ultimate test that will be successful.

COMMISSIONER LEWIS: So you're safe in going on it, then, without going to jail? Is that what you're saying?

MR. NIELSTEN: To a large degree, that's correct.

You know, in the toll business, there are always some people who try to beat the system. A small percentage. And eventually the operators catch them.

COMMISSIONER LEWIS: Okay. Thank you.

The other question is, on the costs for the entire project, what, in your modeling, what percentage

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of error do you figure on there, as far as a toll cost is concerned?

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We built in a certain MR. SIBUL: Yeah. amount of contingencies with the construction costs. You know, we used the best available data we had at the time we developed the cost estimates, and then applied the contingencies to especially large items that had a lot of unknowns, such as interstate utility relocations, things like that.

We've tried to keep up to speed with all of the fluctuating construction costs, but they still tend to go up higher than we can, you know, follow them.

But in general, we built in several layers of the contingencies into the estimate, but they are based on numbers that are roughly about a year old, but they still have the contingencies on top of them.

Matt, just to follow up on MR. NIELSTEN: If you follow the Texas experiment again, that was the largest toll road package in history. It was a \$4.8 billion package of new toll roads. And the state supported many ways to make it work.

However, the good news about it is as they finished the roads, they have in excess of \$450 million in savings.

They turn that money back to local

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1 governments, who applied on the right-of-way for the 10: 22: 02 2 roadway, and incredibly positive experience. 10: 22: 05 3 COMMISSIONER LEWIS: I won't ask any more. 10: 22: 08 4 Thanks. 10: 22: 10 5 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Just a couple of quick 10: 22: 11 6 questions, and then there may be some time for some 10: 22: 12 7 audience questions. 10: 22: 14 8 Remind me again, how would you deal with 10: 22: 15 9 out-of-state and those who are not using these toll 10: 22: 27 10 ways each day that we'll have this electronic device or 10: 22: 27 11 How do we collect that? I think I've been whatever? 10: 22: 27 12 told, but I just don't remember. 10: 22: 30 13 MR. NIELSTEN: Again, the policies for 10: 22: 33 14 segments are in place, but the traditional approach, 10: 22: 35 15 and there aren't many new all electronics roads. Like 10: 22: 38 16 if you are SR 91 in California, you must have a 10: 22: 41 17 transponder to enter this road. You must have a pass. 10: 22: 45 18 You must have an easy pass. 10: 22: 48 19 COMMISSIONER BROWN: So you're not welcome, 10: 22: 51 20 is what you're saying? 10: 22: 52 21 MR. NIELSTEN: To a large extent, that's 10: 22: 53 22 right. 10: 22: 55 23 We've taken this approach as the easy way 10: 22: 56 24 to analyze the numbers to get preliminary revenues 10: 22: 58

There isn't any reason that you can't go to an

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back.

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alternative approach that gives a day pass or radio revenue equivalent. What we've done today, this is the simplistic approach to this level of analysis.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: Let me switch just a little here.

As we've seen these vending scenarios a number of times, there's always this group. We don't have the ability of getting there with just the tolls. I assume we're looking to state government for -- to fund this gap? And if that's the case, why are they not on the line?

You're saying that these bondholders would be the first -- I need to help understand that relationship a little better.

And my recollection, when we went to Colorado and visited their facility, that was not a state sponsored facility. It was a local jurisdiction, or something like that. And there was some upside opportunity for the local jurisdictions. They're not getting any money now, I don't believe, but I do believe, if I remember correctly, there was an opportunity for those local jurisdictions to see some revenue over time with that facility.

Have we not looked at that for these jurisdictions we might be going through here in Utah?

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MR. HOLT: I'll answer the first one.

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If the state's on the hook to fund the gap, if it's 640 million or if it's 502 million, that's the extent of the obligation. They write a check, the cash goes into the account.

Where someone is at risk is when we borrow, and we promise to pay certain things, covered by revenue. And if there is a shortfall of these toll revenues versus what we've actually contracted on fixed payments on debt, there's a shortfall. And the question then becomes, who's at risk?

In the case of these obligations, there is no other -- there is no other revenue, and there is no ancillary pledge from the state, or any other credit agency. So really it's the bondholders that are at risk to get their payments directly from the revenue stream.

The state's only obligation would be, or anyone's only obligation, that funded that gap, would be the gap itself. Once they write the check, it's done.

I will say this. The difference between 640 million and \$502 million, when you look at what -- essentially you're giving a 99-year concession to a private counterparty. And the state would have to put

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in \$500 million anyway, and then turn the whole road over to a private concession.

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It did occur to us that maybe the trade-off there wasn't that great. We would -- we would really want a lot -- in order to turn that road over, we really looked to have a much greater participation from the private sector in order to get that road under concession for 99 years.

So when we looked at the comparison between a tax exempt traditional model and \$641 to \$502 million dollar funding gap under a concession model, the question has to be raised, why wouldn't the state just add an additional \$140,000,000, and continue to essentially own or operate the road, and retain the equity itself until such time as an equity builds up in the road, more like the Chicago Skyway, or some other type of road.

You really aren't getting the bang from the buck out of the concessions model. And that's the conclusion that we came to.

MR. SCOTT: Commissioner Brown, let me just add one thought. We've got a small piece of work we're working on right now that I think addresses the precise question that you raised. And is there a possibility that we do go to the tax exempt approach, where

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everything is retained, in effect, by the state of Utah.

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If the road performs, what happens to the true excess cash flow over time? And what Carlos and John, in essence, asked us to do, was explore a relatively simple model of sharing those excess revenues as between the state of Colorado and the local jurisdictions. And we'll have that done pretty shortly, but it's something that there is -- there is ample precedent for.

I guess the most spectacular is being Alaska's sharing of oil royalties with the, in that case the citizens of the state. And the E470, there is a benefit district that extends on each side of the right-of-way. And the local jurisdictions participate in the increment of development. It's like a taxed increment district, but the increment of development that would be above and beyond normal expectations.

And that has begun to produce some small sums of money. I think their financials said about \$300,000 to be split with the local jurisdictions.

> COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you.

We've probably run out of time, Ted.

MR. KNOWLTON: Yeah. I just wanted to inform you that the hour is up.

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1 Commissioner, if you have any other 10: 28: 17 2 questions, you're welcome to ask them, or have the rest 10: 28: 18 3 of the Commission pose those questions. 10: 28: 22 4 COMMISSIONER BROWN: Any other questions? 10: 28: 24 5 I don't think so. Thank you. 10: 28: 26 6 MR. KNOWLTON: At this point we would like 10: 28: 29 7 to take a ten-minute break. And we will reconvene 10: 28: 31 8 promptly in ten minutes for our third panel. 10: 28: 35 9 (Whereupon, a break was taken.) 10: 28: 38 10 MR. KNOWLTON: Let's go ahead and reconvene. 10: 43: 29 11 I invite those of you who need to find your 10: 43: 31 12 seats to do so. 10: 43: 36 13 Turn our attention to the third panel, 10: 43: 39 14 discussing local issues and the potential impact of 10: 43: 41 15 tolling to users, from a local leader perspective, and 10: 43: 43 16 a business perspective. 10: 43: 49 17 With us today is Senator Ed Mayne, who will 10: 43: 52 18 represent residents of western Salt Lake City and units 10: 43: 56 19 of the transportation. 10: 44: 00 20 Dave Creer, of the Utah Trucking Association 10: 44: 02 21 will discuss impacts of the local trucking industry 10: 44: 04 22 related to tolling. 10: 44: 07 23 Vicki Varela, Kennecott Land, will present 10: 44: 08 24 transportation and economic development impacts and 10: 44: 12 25 issues from a local company's perspective. 10: 44: 14

Vern Anderson, with the Salt Lake Tribune, will talk about local issues influenced by tolling, such as local public perspectives on the issue.

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And Jay Evensen, with the Deseret News, will also discuss those same issues.

Let's start with Senator Ed Mayne. State
Senator Mayne was born in Bingham Canyon. Graduated
from Kearns Junior High School and Granger High School.
Went on to Snow College and the University of Utah for
his higher education. His legislative assignments
included serving on several standing committees,
business and labor, senate rules, transportation,
public utilities and technology, Work Force Services
and community and economic development. He also serves
on the appropriation committee for commerce and
revenue.

Thank you so much, Senator Mayne, for being here today. You have about five minutes.

SENATOR MAYNE: First of all, I want to thank UDOT, the state, and all of the participants for scheduling this meeting. I understand I've got just five minutes to say I'm opposed to tolling, so, you know, I guess that we'll just as well get that statement off right first.

But I do -- I do appreciate all of the work

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that's been done, and I think I've expressed that over different meetings, that the work that UDOT has done in getting public opinion, and having public hearings.

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I've attended many of those public hearings, and it's kind of interesting. We've just completed the elections, November 7th, just a couple of days ago.

And as a candidate for the Utah Senate, I attended a lot of meetings. And one of the issues that was very, very high on the concern of the people in West Valley, Kearns, Taylorsville, and in several meetings with people in Magna, down in West Jordan, was the issue of tolling.

And there's no question, there's no question that we desperately need the Mountain View Corridor.

It needs to be built. And -- to relieve that -- that traffic congestion, and the growth, the extraordinary growth that's going on out on the west side of Salt Lake County.

Some of the major comments and feelings that people have range from social -- socioeconomic issues of how -- who it impacts the most. Low income people. Business trying to get their commodities to market. Things like that.

I do want to say that, you know, along with education, health and human services, transportation is

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our third crisis issues in the state of Utah. What needs to be done is a clear direction on how to raise the money for our transportation needs in the state of Utah.

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And that's going to take a lot of courage from a lot of elected public officials, and not just the Legislature. It's going to take courage from the governor. It's going to take courage from county and municipal leaders, but we need to do it. Just like we did on the first phase of Salt Lake County, with the corridor. We need to look at those things.

But I want to tell you, the feelings of the people from the west side is, Why us? Why only us?

And there is those feelings out there. Those -- the people, the residents of the west side of Salt Lake

County feel and believe that very strongly.

So, you know, I think we need to look. If we're going to have this tool in our tool box -- and I've got 134 tools in my tool box too. Never been used -- but we have to use those tools. Then we ought to look at other highways.

And the Legislature has a tool in its tool box. We can, by legislation, once the highway is built, even though it wasn't intended to be a toll road, make it a toll road. So maybe we need to look at

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the Legacy Highway, upon completion. Highway 6
desperately needed to be completed. The St. George
loop, and some other areas. So it's not just one
segment. The people over in those areas are very
concerned. Is it double, triple, quadruple taxation?
They've been building roads for everybody else over the
years. Now they need a road, and it needs to be built.

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So, you know, we need to -- we need to address this issue. And it's going to take a lot of courage. I think the tolling process itself, we need to look at different optional taxes. But I'll tell you what it would be, and boldly saying it, what we need is a -- is a one-cent state-wide sales tax. One cent. The revenue that that would bring in for the transportation crisis would be enormous. And then we wouldn't need to deal with this issue of tolling.

I have problems with tolling being owned by a private enterprise, or a foreign government, or something. It's for profit. It's not for the convenience and the moving of traffic of what government's responsibility is.

I've been told I've got less than one minute left. So let me just say, in addition to being creative and bold, and doing what we need to do as public elected leaders to take care of the issue of

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transportation crisis, who knows? With the elections last Tuesday, maybe we'll get some more Federal dollars dealing with domestic issues.

Thank you.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Senator Mayne.

Next we will hear from David Creer. The executive director of the Utah Trucking Association. Utah trucking represents over 400 national and local companies with over 70,000 Utah workers.

Thank you, David Creer, for being with us today. You have five minutes.

MR. CREER: I want to thank all of you, and especially the Commission, for allowing and inviting us here today. When we started these meetings early this morning, I was the only one sitting on the other side of the road -- of the room, so I appreciate my colleagues coming and rescuing me over there. But we do appreciate the opportunity to present to you this morning.

And as you all well know, we have a difficulty with tolls. They are a real problem. In fact, there's lots of problems with tolls. There's all kinds of people who do not want them. There's taxes. There's the quick fix idea we're trying to solve something very quickly in the state.

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But, you know, we think there's even more serious problems with tolls.

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And recently in a Denver toll, started a toll that was quite extensive. They showed what's happened with many tolls within their -- in the United States. And I just want to go through a few quotes here. They reviewed 23 turnpikes in eight states. The majority are failing to meet revenue projections to justify their cost.

There's all kinds of problems in -- and I think those are the experts. They know there's problems throughout the country with many of these different toll roads in many different states.

Also, 86 percent of new toll roads in eight states failed to meet expectations in their first full year. These are expectations made by experts about traffic projections and so forth. Even worse, by the year three, 75 percent remain poor performers. The Denver Northwest Parkway, which I have traveled, has attracted just half of the cars forecast since it opened in 2003.

These are pretty serious risks. Something we need to take note of.

But we did some of our own calculations about what this would cost, and these are just our own

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analyses. One of our companies helped us with this.

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If you did the -- went on the full Mountain View Parkway -- and we just took some assumptions here. The effective tax rate per route for a car would be about \$0.47. With tolling, it would go to \$6.39.

Even more startling is the cost for fuel.

If you just had a regular -- took just 40 miles and drove it, you'd have \$2.50. But with tolling, it goes up to over \$5 a gallon. Even worse than this is what it causes, and that's why I'm here today, is in the trucking industry.

In the trucking industry, this is significant. If you just took the I-80 to Lehi and took one direction, the effective tax rate would be \$1.61.

If you did, with tolling, which would be over \$25.

Now, one of our major carriers here in Utah did some calculations for us. In a 15-mile -- 1,500 mile haul of freight, their average net is about \$100. There is no way they are going to pay 25 percent of their net to use a toll road.

Also, on the fuel. It's even more dramatic. If a truck went down the full length of the Mountain View Corridor, the 40 miles, it would pay 2.50 a

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gallon. If it goes with tolls, it would go up to over \$6 a gallon.

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This is significant. Key significance of this, and everyone needs to know this, is the trucks won't use it. Too many fixed contract freight rates throughout the United States. We can't pass this along very easily. We'd barely be able to pass along a fuel charge. This is a significant cost. You have interstate trucking, and you have -- you have trucking -- intrastate company. The small and medium companies would have a very difficult time.

I talked to someone who had over 50 trucks just near the Mountain View Corridor, the proposed Mountain View Corridor. And she indicated to me that there was no way that they could have a toll and pass that on to their customer.

We want this highway. I think that needs to be said here, and powerfully said. This is not just another highway that somebody thought of on the west end of Salt Lake County. This is a strategic transportation corridor. And the reason it's strategic is there's over 100 million square feet of industrial space, warehousing space, distribution space, and terminal space in the northwest corridor. Therefore, the Mountain View Corridor dumps in the center of the

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state of Utah, where all of our industry is, and where all of our movement.

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I just did a small survey of our -- of 18 terminals, and we have more than that in the trucking industry, and there's over 6,000 trucks and 13,000 employees just in this one section of northwest -- of the northwest county.

So we want this highway. This is important to us. But we really believe that if Mountain View Corridor is tolled, that it's going to hurt the economic commerce throughout the state. Everyone benefits from all of our highways throughout the state.

Also, it's unfair, as we've mentioned before, and Senator Mayne mentioned, to the people on the west side. And we certainly agree with that.

Well, the opposition is growing to Mountain View Corridor. We have started to talk to people, we've started to talk to many groups, we've talked to cities, chambers, and companies. And we have a list that I have given to the commissioners, of over 200 companies so far, just in a short week or two, that have said that we oppose tolling Mountain View Corridor. That's significant. We're talking about commerce here. We're talking about moving freight.

We're talking about the quality of our life. Yes,

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there is opposition to tolling this vital highway.

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We talked so much about cars. It's time to talk about trucks, moving freight, and our economic viability.

We also did a poll. And once you give voters a little information, and maybe some of the information today, we found out that 68 percent opposed tolling.

But we want to be part of this. We want -we think that there's a solution, and we can be part of
this.

There is a way to build Mountain View

Corridor. It's been mentioned, it's been brought up.

And we support, aggressively, the county option sales

tax. We have been preaching that for years, the

dedicated sales tax needs to go to our roads and

highways, and then transit. And we're partners in

that. And we've been partners, and we want to continue

to be partners.

We think there can be a fuel tax increase.

Even our National American Trucking Association is

lobbying the Federal government to increase the Federal

fuel tax. This is a great way to pay for roads. It

has to be part of a tool box. Yes, it can't pay for

all of the roads. It has to be reasonable and

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This is unprecedented. We have never been a trucking or a freight industry that has proposed that we increase the fuel tax. But like has been mentioned, that can be part of the tool box.

We know we spelled sacrifice wrong. I probably did that. But we just wanted to make sure you caught it.

But everyone's going to have to sacrifice.

Everyone is going to have to sacrifice to build this vital road. We want to be partners in that. We want to be part of the solution. But I think it is imperative that you understand that we are major stakeholders in highways. 80 percent of all of the freight in this country moves by truck. This is how we have to go from one point to another. And as a region grows, we need this road.

So this is vital. We want to be part of it. We want to be partners with you.

Thank you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Dave Creer.

Next we will hear from Vicki Varela, the vice president of public policy for Kennecott Lands. She will share with us the perspective of a local company.

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Previously, Ms. Varela was chief of staff to Mike Leavitt. Currently, Kennecott Land is building the Daybreak community in South Jordan, and planning to build seven to ten additional communities along the west bench over the next 50 to 70 years.

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Vicki, we're pleased to have you here today.

And you have about five minutes.

MS. VARELA: Thank you. It's good to be here.

I want to talk to you from a little bit different perspective. I want to talk to you about quality of life.

Proposition 3 on the ballot this Tuesday was a very interesting measure of what's going on in our valley.

We had a proposition that came on to the ballot, quite late in the process, and language that wasn't very specific, about what it was going to do.

But what people knew about it was that it would address the need for roads and rail in this valley.

And this ballot, that had very little time for people to learn about, and not as much information as they needed, passed with resounding success. I think that tells us something really important about

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people's priorities right now. It tells us that they desperately want good regional transportation. And that they're willing to pay for it.

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This all goes into something that Kennecott Land has been experimenting, has been trying over the last several years, which is to measure what is good quality of life for the people in this valley, and how do we, as a business, deliver it?

Several quality of life factors that go into transportation. The first is our use of time. How do we, each of us, want to spend our time? Not on the highways, is what we're all experiencing. That's time away from our family, from our jobs, from all of the activities that generate genuine quality of life.

Air quality. The longer we're sitting on the highways, waiting to get to our destinations, the worse air quality is.

Jobs. Jobs is a huge part of the equation in this valley right now. We're growing. There are great job possibilities. There's just not enough room, with good transportation access, for the jobs we can generate. We communicate frequently with the governor's office, and with the EDCU, and they are desperate for research park areas, for job areas in -- with accessible transportation. We're in close

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communications with the University of Utah. They are desperate to expand their Research Park facilities, but they don't have a place to grow with accessible transportation.

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So we really need good regional transportation for structure. People are willing to pay for good transportation infrastructure. It's not just rail, it's not just roads, it's good, smart, long-term planning like the Wasatch Front Regional Commission is trying to do to make sure we have a well integrated regional transportation infrastructure. So then we go to the question of how to pay.

Well, I think the how, the key question there, the how is now. As it was mentioned earlier, the cost of building Mountain View Corridor increased by \$80 million a year. Do we want to spend what it costs now, which is a lot, or do we want to spend \$80 million more the next year, or the year after that, or the year after that? It's cumulative, and it's going to hurt our quality of life if we're not able to make a decision now to build the necessary regional transportation infrastructure.

We then go to the question of how we do it.

And I think lots of great ideas have been laid out here throughout the day. We know that the Federal

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government isn't going to give us what they used to. About 25 percent of the costs. Gas tax. We know we need increases in gas tax, but we can't increase gas tax enough to pay for it. Sales tax, Eddy's raised an interesting idea about a state-wide sales tax. All sorts of things we can do with sales tax. Will it be The discussion here today suggests that all of enough? these things don't add up to enough. So then that creates the question for us, do we have to put the toll road option in the mix? I think we'd all rather not. But if the rest of the numbers don't add up, we need to be willing to face this question as part of the quality of life discussion.

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It's -- change is really hard. I wish we could do it the way we used to. But we can't. In a previous life, we went through a real difficult change about how we did transportation, and that was the reconstruction of I-15 under the design-build scenario. It was hard. But we were in a situation where we needed to do it now. We all dug in and did it. Dug in and did it, and it worked well for this valley for our quality of life, and job creation, and all of the things that I think are really important to Utahns.

Thank you very much.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Vicki.

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Next we will hear from Vern Anderson, who is the editorial page editor for the Salt Lake Tribune, where he has served that post since 2002. Prior to that, for 23 years, he was a reporter and editor with the Associated Press and three years as the Tribune's deputy editor for news. Graduated in 1974 with a degree in history from Brigham Young University.

Thank you so much, Vern, for being here.

MR. ANDERSON: Thank you.

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MR. KNOWLTON: You have five minutes.

MR. ANDERSON: Thank you for inviting me here. I came here to be more of a student than a speaker. I applaud the -- both the turnout and the quality of the panel discussions.

I'm not going to have a lot to say in terms of opinion about tolling Mountain View Corridor, because the Tribune's editorial board hasn't really weighed in, and wants to know a lot more about it before we do.

I will say, though, that since August, the Salt Lake Tribune, up until late October, was interviewing candidates for office in the Salt Lake valley, both County and House and Senate candidates, as well as the congressional delegation. And so we almost uniformly asked the question about Mountain View

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Corridor, and how these leaders, or would-be leaders in the Salt Lake valley felt about it. Felt about tolling Mountain View Corridor. And there was -- there was a lot of feeling that it -- that the fairness and equity issue was huge. That they didn't want to have to be in the position of having to sell, to their constituents, a toll for Mountain View Corridor, because it -- it is patently -- or they viewed it as patently unfair. That the west side of the Salt Lake valley would be burdened with paying tolls, when those folks up in Davis and Weber county aren't. And they got their Legacy Parkway.

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I suspect that Utah County -- Utah County residents are going to be equally resistant to the idea of tolling Mountain View Corridor.

This is what we heard. And there was also feeling, although -- with gaps that we have met with throughout the year, there was a feeling, although nobody really wants to speak candidly about it, that the Legislature really needed to step up and lead the people -- along with the governor -- lead the people in a direction that would help to solve, on numerous fronts, the funding crisis in construction of highways in Utah.

Unmistakably, this is a serious problem, and

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a very, very pressing need. And I have to say that I found that, with all due respect to Representative Lockhart, I found it extraordinary that the Utah Legislature, out of the gate, takes off the table the idea of raising the fuel tax, when, manifestly, there are numbers of revenue streams that have to be tapped in order to meet these needs. That, to me, for the sake of political expediency, and a desire not to be seen as raisers of taxes, shows me that there's a lack of political courage in the Legislature.

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I'm not saying across the board, but a lack of political courage in the Legislature to meet this problem head on.

I'll say one other thing. And that is, that while this is a meeting to talk about Mountain View Corridor and whether to toll or not to toll, and it's not a hearing about mass transit, mass transit, in terms of the Wasatch Front, is absolutely essential for solving the transportation crisis along the Front.

And it's already been said that if all of the highways that people have in mind are built, it still won't -- it still won't solve the congestion problem. The only thing that will do that, in addition to building some roads, is mass transit. And this is particularly true when you talk about quality of life,

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when you talk about the quality of the air along the Wasatch Front, which is deteriorating swiftly, and will continue to do so if we continue to build roads and don't fund mass transit.

That's my personal view.

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Thank you for inviting me to be here, and we're looking forward, very much, to a rich public debate about whether to toll highways.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you very much, Vern.

Next we will hear from Jay Evensen, with the Deseret News. Editor of the editorial page since 1996. He joined the editorial board as a writer in 1994, after an 11-year career as a reporter at the Deseret News, the Las Vegas Review Journal, the Clinton Oklahoma Daily News, and at United Press International in New York City.

Thanks so much for being here with us today,

Jay Evensen. Five minutes.

MR. EVENSEN: Thank you. I appreciate being here. Just one minor correction. For those of you who know me, it's actually pronounced Evensen, and it is the Deseret Morning News now. But other than that, you were right on.

I appreciate this process. I appreciate being here. And I think it's kind of -- it's very

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refreshing to go through this process. You know, I've lived here about 20 years. I grew up in Phoenix, Arizona. And during the '60s and '70s, at a time everybody was worried that Phoenix was going to become another Los Angeles. And they made a conscious decisions at that time to avoid construction of any freeways and highways. And, as a result, the rest of the country today is planning, because we don't want to become another Phoenix. So I applaud the planners here in Utah for being forward looking, and particularly as regards to mass transit as well. Phoenix is in the middle now of trying to construct a light rail system, and I think we're far ahead in those ways.

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Like Vern, I'm anxious to study this issue and hear the debate. Desertt Morning News has taken a rather cautious position in favor of tolling on the corridor.

We do have some concerns about it, but we want, and we see it as a -- as a viable alternative, and a viable way to bridge that funding gap.

You know, I've heard all of my life about how westerners are not like everybody else. We heard that at the construction of light rail. Westerners aren't going to take mass transit. And we know now that that's not true. I have in my pocket a \$50

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monthly pass for Trax, and I take it every morning.

Now, granted, my newspaper pays for half of that, but I pay that amount because there's a trade-off, and it's important for me to have a reliable way to get to work, and one that's relaxing, and avoids -- it also saves me a lot of money, the wear and tear on my car. And if people see the trade-offs on tolling, I think, you know, if they find it advantageous, I think westerners will take to that as well.

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However, I've examined a lot of the opposition, and a lot of the arguments. And the one that keeps resonating, the one that we keep hearing today does concern fairness. 20 years ago, when I moved to this valley, it didn't take me long to figure out that there is a real east side/west side thing going on in this valley, and there has been forever, as far as I can tell.

And I think it is a legitimate concern that west-siders would be paying a toll, and east-siders would not.

And I understand the legal reasons why you can't go back and begin tolling on highways on the east side, but this is a question that I think is going to raise a lot of public reaction and concern.

I went through some letters to the editor in

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preparation for coming here. I didn't find a whole lot that had been written on this. I don't think people have really focused in on this issue yet, except for some of the interests that are particularly affected by it.

But I think this is going to be a real issue.

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It would seem to be fair that a toll would be in a place where you had a real alternative. For example, on the Legacy Parkway. If that were to be a tolled highway, you have an alternative. You can take I-15, or you can take the tollway. But I don't see that kind of alternative in play here.

We have some other concerns. Any time you're talking about the possibility of a private company being involved, I get concerned about transparency, and making sure that the public has access to information about how tolls are being collected, whether they are being collected fairly, and whether the public has enough oversight over that process.

And we've seen this come up from time to time. Just off the top of my head, I'm thinking about the old photo com debate. In Utah we decided not to go the photo cop route, but in some other places, I think

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San Diego particularly, a few years ago a judge threw about 700 or so speeding tickets out of court because it had been demonstrated that the private company running the equipment had rigged it in such a way that it was ticketing more people than really was fair.

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So any time you have that kind of a profit motive involved, I think you ought to have really close scrutiny on the part of the public, and transparency for people like us who like to look into these issues.

It's interesting to me to look at the history of highways in America, because up until the first part of the 19th century, most ridges and canals and roads were privately owned, and they were beginning to go bankrupt and to have real problems with upkeep.

And the government -- governments stepped in and took an ownership of those. And ever since then, there has been this tradition of the company of public ownership of highways and roads.

And so now we're kind of slipping back into what we used to have. Which isn't necessarily bad, but we need to be very careful moving in that direction.

So, in conclusion, we're very open in this debate. We have said that we think tolling could be a viable alternative, but we're open to arguments. We are concerned, will, a private company, if it is

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involved in this, take good care of the highways? Will the tolling be too expensive? How do we know whether the following is expensive or not, or whether it's reasonable. And the fairness issue. Which I think is something that really has to be -- has to be taken seriously. Thank you very much for having me here today.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Mr. Evensen. Apologize for the mispronunciation.

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Thank you to all of our panelists. I'd like to turn the time over to Commissioner Brown to facilitate questions from the Commission.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you very much, Ted.

Certainly we've reached that point in our

Commission meeting where we're getting a different

perspective of some of the concerns, and that's

important to us. Many of the issues that's been raised

by this last panel certainly have been on the minds of

the Commission as we've reviewed this for some time.

And obviously they're not easy answers.

I'm going to go to Commissioner Wells for the first question from our Commission.

COMMISSIONER WELLS: Okay. I'd like to address a couple of questions to David, about the

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trucker's views. And first, I'd like to know if we don't build Mountain View, how that would impact truckers, and that -- how this -- I know there are truckers all around the country who pay tolls in different states, and how they deal -- how do they deal with those issues there?

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MR. CREER: Thank you for your question.

We -- again, we really want Mountain View Corridor. We think it's a strategic corridor, or transportation corridor.

You know, we have to use the roads, and -the roads that we have to, and do our best financial
models. I don't think many people understand that most
trucks, at least over-the-road trucks, are satellite
driven, and logistics plays a roll in that. Our one
company here, CR England, has 3,500 trucks that they
run throughout the country. And in the 30 years, they
have never paid a toll in Indiana, or any of those.
They've used secondary roads because of the cost
factor.

So the other thing I worry about, in your second question, it's a serious question you have to ask yourself, is what happens if this continues, this forest fire of concessions, or private-owned roads throughout the country, and especially in the West?

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We're going to have a patchwork of toll roads with different charges, and different amounts, and different areas. How are we going to keep up with that? How do we bill a customer from going to point A to point B if we have a patchwork of toll roads throughout the country?

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Again, in the East, they've found ways. I'm sure there's sometimes they have to pay that toll. But there's also a cost factor here in doing business.

They find ways around that. Parallel roads are very important. But we're very concerned about this patchwork, and what's going -- what signal this would send in the West, a vital road like this, to have a toll road.

COMMISSIONER WELLS: I'd also like to ask

Becky a little bit -- a question about Kennecott Land.

She mentioned that they are going to build seven

communities along the west bench. And I think that's

going to really be a driver for a road like Mountain

View Corridor. And I just wondered if she had any

thoughts or ideas on how their company might be willing

to help participate, or help us to come up with some

possible revenue sources or some other ways that we can

help with projects like this, because of that impact.

MS. VARELA: Thanks, Joan.

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Our company comes to this long-term business plan with an eye to partnership in the community. The question you're asking is a what-if, that we don't have a lot of information about it at this point, you know, in terms of where this might go as a tolling option.

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But certainly we will stay very close to the discussion, and are interested in being strong community partners, to ensure that we have the right regional infrastructure to make this a -- to create the great quality of life that we need.

It's easier to look back at performance than to look forward at what-ifs that we don't know enough about. So I'll give you an example of this Proposition 3, and what led up to that.

Several years ago, as Kennecott Land was starting up our business, and we recognized that a light rail line was a key component of this great quality of life that we're trying to generate at Daybreak. We realized that the environmental impact statement on the mid Jordan line was going nowhere, because there wasn't enough money for it. And so, as you recall, Commissioner, we pulled together a discussion of all of the communities that the light rail line travels through; Murray, Midvale, West Jordan, South Jordan, and we all partnered to

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contribute the funding that was necessary to get the EIS back on track.

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We're pleased that the mid-Jordan line is now positioned for a construction, and that we could be partners in making that happen.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Bodily.

COMMISSIONER BODILY: I don't know that I have any specific questions of any of the panelists, but let me just make a couple of comments concerning the Commission's role, and then I would invite any comment that you might have concerning our positions.

Now, I've been on the Commission for about nine years now, and until just the last couple of years, we really have not looked into the tolling situation in very much depth. It wasn't something that we considered we were ready for. And maybe we're still not ready for it.

But as we've -- as a Commission, have been drawn into this discussion, there are a few things.

And I'll try to characterize the position of the Commission. It's not necessarily a unanimous position probably, but there are some things that we have considered in the area of tolling then. One thing in particular, we've felt that it wasn't fair to create a toll road if it was the only alternative for local

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travelers to access. If there wasn't another feasible alternative, we didn't want to create a toll road and force them into paying that toll. Now, as time has gone on, we've seen these possibilities, and one that was mentioned was the Legacy Highway, and possibly, if that had been considered early on in the process, that might have been considered a toll road right from the onset.

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And I wouldn't rule out the fact that it may some day be a toll road too. But we want those alternatives available before we designate toll roads.

We look at the needs, the current needs, and the projected needs, and factor in the costs that are involved. And we've -- that's been discussed to quite an extent today, that there are escalating costs that we have to deal with. And we don't want to delay this at some high expense in the future. I think it's been pointed out that there is the need, and we all pretty much concur in that.

But those have been some of the basic ideas that we have dealt with as a Commission, and I would ask that, if there are -- if we are on the wrong track, let us know how you feel about it.

I'd solicit any comments that you might make.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: Who would like to respond to Commissioner Bodily? Any of the panelists?

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SENATOR MAYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for the question.

You know, I think that this whole issue of tolling has brought to the public commerce, to all of the stakeholders, that we really do have a crisis in transportation. It's not that we haven't been told. The Legislature and all of the stakeholders over the years, through UDOT and others, that we do have a crisis in transportation, but nobody takes it really seriously until it's come in to their back yard, or, you know, not having -- being able to move commerce, or traffic.

So I think we're in a -- in a very, very important period of time that we can take and make some -- those bold moves to fund transportation, for the whole -- for the whole state of Utah. I think we need to use this as an opportunity to get all of the stakeholders involved and say, just like we did in Salt Lake County for the quarter cent, we need to do it for a state-wide transportation plan, and financing.

Conversely, the issues that we have raised, and that this panel has talked about, the fairness

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issue, being the only one, and I agree with you. That we do have that ability.

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As I've checked with Legislature research, and general counsel, the Legislature can make toll roads out of completed projects. So that puts just about everything up in the air. But I think that the Legislature, at least if they're smart enough, will understand that we're -- the transportation crisis is everybody's crisis, not just one part of the valley.

The last part is, is if we -- if we single out one area, those same legislatures, like myself, that is ready to deal with the crisis, some of us have been ready to deal with it for several years, but those of us that are ready to deal with it, and make it an issue this year, or a special session, you're going to lose us, because if we get singled out, and there's not a fairness, there's not a plan, then this Commission, and the decision you make could alienate a whole corridor of legislators that say, you stick it to us, we'll stick it on the rest of you. And that's unfortunate, but it's a reality of life, especially to those people who are living along that corridor. need to build a corridor, we need to build it now, we need to address the needs of funding transportation state-wide, and let's use this as an opportunity.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: David?

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MR. CREER: Commissioner, you brought up a question about a secondary road, parallel road. We didn't have time to get into that in the presentation, and I'm not sure I heard it from anyone else, but that's a whole dialogue that could be in another meeting about who's going to use a toll road, and who's going to use secondary roads through these counties and cities. You need to think about the elderly. You have to think of the young driver. The small business.

Who's going to use the toll road? Who's going to pay?

Even our experts here and consultants are telling us that the projections, even if you build the road, it takes years for any -- you know, the projections to use the road, to come forefront.

I mean, I've been on the California road, and you hardly see any traffic over there. When I first went on it, I just -- what's going on here? It will take years for people to come around to that. But what about the secondary roads? How safe are they? What kind of drivers are you putting on the secondary roads? What are we doing to the rest of our system if you have a toll road?

So you are able and can afford to pay a toll, you get to go on a road that doesn't have much

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traffic? But a lot of the other population has to go onto a secondary road. What kind of drivers are on that road? What kind of safe drivers?

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These are issues that, you know, we didn't have time to get into today, but I think they're very -- I know there are some mayors in this room that are concerned about that in their own districts. Of what's going to happen as people take alternative routes? Because not everyone is going to pay a toll.

MS. VARELA: Your question and a lot of other comments that we heard from this panel go to the fairness issue. And I think we need to look at fairness from a little different perspective than in the discussion so far.

It has surprised me that, in this whole
Proposition 3 discussion, no one has said why is all of
the money on Proposition 3 going to the west bench?
Why don't we get any on the east bench? Because
really, not a penny of that proposition is going to
address transportation issues on the east bench.
You've got the airport line, the West Valley City line,
the mid-Jordan line, the Mountain View Corridor, and
the Draper -- you know, we'll give them that Draper is
in the middle.

In that whole discussion, nobody's been

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grouchy about the fact that we are beefing up the west bench regional transportation infrastructure. And I think that's because we all know that there's a desperate need, and we're willing to raise the taxes to pay for it.

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So I think we've all got to think regionally, and recognize that the way we're building things is generational, and nothing's happening in highway construction the way it did in the 1950s, including the way we're paying for it.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Warnick.

COMMISSIONER WARNICK: Fairness issue is one that's certainty been very important to us and will continue to be important to us as we -- as we continue our deliberations.

This Commission is -- has made a decision that we will consider tolling on all of the roads. No doubt the first road is going to be very painful, whichever one that is.

Senator Mayne. I asked this question earlier to Mayor Nordfelt, but appreciate maybe some response from you.

What do you think the citizenry that you represent out there, what do you think their expectations are as to when that Mountain View Corridor

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Five years? Ten years? 15? 20.

SENATOR MAYNE: Well, I think they're reacting to a -- you know, seeing all of the growth, the nominal growth out on the west side of Salt Lake County. They're starting to see bottlenecks in their communities. And it's not just north/south, it's east/west also.

UDOT, that -- and your Commission has identified one area that we just had a ground breaking to widen 5600 West. And that needs to be completed all the way from I-80 as far as down to 6200 South or more.

But the people out in -- and I think in any part of the state, when you have a crisis, that's when you address it.

I mean, you've got to have vision, and you've got to have planning. And I think that's where we're at right now.

And right now, there -- they're getting around okay. But the bottlenecks are coming. And as the growth continues, then, you know, the more demand is going to be for this to be completed. When do they figure it's going to be done? Tomorrow. I mean, we can all, you know, wave the magic wand, and that -- and that Mountain View Corridor is going to be built, or

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1 other areas of crisis in the state. 11: 37: 45 2 I think that's just human feeling, or human 11: 37: 48 3 nature, to expect that. 11: 37: 52 4 I don't think people really realize that 11: 37: 53 5 there's a lot of work that be done before that's to be 11: 37: 56 6 built, whether it's corridor preservation, whether it's 11: 38: 01 7 putting it together. But I think that, you know, the 11: 38: 04 8 issue of tolling is just going to be right there. 11: 38: 08 9 That's why we need to take the step and fund public 11: 38: 11 10 transportation needs for everybody, whether it's west 11: 38: 16 11 side, east side, or around the state of Utah. And 11: 38: 19 12 those roads, that when we get finished, we could make 11: 38: 25 13 them tolls, but it's going to have to be fairness, and 11: 38: 29 14 let's not isolate one group. 11: 38: 34 15 COMMISSIONER WARNICK: Do you know how much 11: 38: 36 16 your increased general sales tax is off the top of your 11: 38: 38 17 head, or maybe someone does? 11: 38: 41 18 SENATOR MAYNE: A state wide sales tax? 11: 38: 45 19 COMMISSIONER WARNICK: Of one cent? 11: 38: 48 20 SENATOR MAYNE: Absolutely. I totally 11: 38: 49 21 support that. 11: 38: 51 22 COMMISSIONER WARNICK: How much money? 11: 38: 52 23 What's the dollar amount it generates? 11: 38: 53 24 SENATOR MAYNE: John? Do you know that? 11: 38: 56 25 Commissioner Ellertson maybe. 11: 39: 02

1	COMMISSIONER ELLERTSON: I inquired on that	11: 39: 04
2	of one of the state legislatures that's been dealing	11: 39: 06
3	with the transportation issue, and he informed me it	11: 39: 08
4	was \$116 million annually.	11: 39: 11
5	COMMISSIONER WARNICK: State wide?	11: 39: 13
6	COMMISSIONER ELLERTSON: State wide.	11: 39: 15
7	COMMISSIONER WELLS: Is that a quarter cent	11: 39: 20
8	or one cent?	11: 39: 21
9	SENATOR MAYNE: It's a quarter. It's up.	11: 39: 23
10	COMMISSIONER WARNICK: That's a quarter. So	11: 39: 25
11	500 million maybe?	11: 39: 29
12	SENATOR MAYNE: It's going to be close to	11: 39: 31
13	500 million a year. And that's a lot of money to	11: 39: 33
14	you know. That that would really start taking care	11: 39: 37
15	of our transportation crisis.	11: 39: 41
16	COMMISSIONER BROWN: Okay. Commissioner	11: 39: 44
17	Ellertson. Have you got	11: 39: 47
18	COMMISSIONER WARNICK: I'm through.	11: 39: 49
19	COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Do you mean me?	11: 39: 51
20	Okay. I've got	11: 39: 53
21	COMMISSIONER BROWN: I was thinking	11: 39: 59
22	something else.	11: 40: 00
23	COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: That's okay.	11: 40: 01
24	Mr. Creer, you tossed around some numbers,	11: 40: 02
25	intended for the shock value I'm sure, for the	11: 40: 06

gasoline. And the 68 percent opposed to tolling. I'm in the stats business, so I'd like to see the detail behind those studies. Will you make those details available to me, please?

MR. CREER: Absolutely.

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COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Thank you.

Mr. Evensen, you mentioned that you -- you take Trax to work, partially because it's subsidized. How do you get from your home to where you pick up Trax?

MR. EVENSEN: Generally I drive. It's about a five-mile drive to the station, but I have taken the bus on occasion to get there. Driving is a lot more fun.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: Yeah, driving is much more convenient. That's the whole point.

And to Senator Mayne mentioned the line, he doesn't like the idea of foreign ownership of roads or infrastructure. I would point out the fact that in the last five years, the United States government has gone into debt some four billion -- or four trillion dollars, and 80 percent of that is owned by foreigners.

We seem not to be so concerned about -- about what's going on at that level, and yet, when we talk about a foreign entity owning some infrastructure,

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because they're -- foreigner are owning huge amounts of our infrastructure in the United States, obligations that we somehow seem to ignore and not able to take care of, and yet here, we're showing a way to raise money, maybe some foreigner may be coming in.

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That was never brought up by anyone but you.

And I'm -- I just respond by saying, you know, we, here
in the United States, have exposed ourselves to foreign
ownership of our capital and infrastructure anyway.

SENATOR MAYNE: Don't feel shocked, but a lot of us are concerned about that national debt.

We're here to discuss tolling and roads, but I'll tell you, there's a lot of us concerned about who owns America. If you want to debate that, I'd love to debate that whole thing with you.

COMMISSIONER MILLINGTON: So would I. Let's get together and do that over lunch some day.

SENATOR MAYNE: At the selling of America.

I've also got to tell you I was on a conference call with some new designers of the bluing of America, and they're talking about what could happen. And I think you're going to see more focus on domestic issues. And I think transportation, you're going to see more money being focused on the state's crisis nationwide on transportation. So I -- I'm

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not -- I'm not going to say that we're not going to get more money from a national level, and I think a lot of other things are going to -- we're going to see some domestic issues take place precedent over what we're seeing right -- last six years.

Finally, thank you.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Wilson?

COMMISSIONER WILSON: Thank you.

I live down in rural Utah, Emery County,
Carbon County, where there's a lot of coal produced.
We have trucks down there as well too. And when
there's been some discussion here about trucks on
secondary roads because they won't use toll roads,
because of cost, whatever, trucks and senior citizens,
elderly drivers, even us farmers, we don't get along
very good. It's very hard, on a road like Highway 10,
and 6, for people to mingle in, and cross, and get in
the flow of traffic with trucks. It's very dangerous.
We've had many accidents, even on Highway 10, with
these coal trucks down there.

But I feel, having said that, I feel bad for you people up here that has all of these problems up here, with congestion, and all of this growth. You've got big problems. But as a state, in -- as a whole, hardly anywhere we go throughout the state, as a

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commissioner with UDOT, we find people with urgent needs for transportation. Even down into the maintaining of their local government roads. UDOT roads.

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So I guess I would ask, if we do not toll, what is the possibility, even if we raise sales tax, can we build the roads and the transportation system and meet the crisis that we're in, through, perhaps other sources of funding? Without tolling, how can we deal with and -- with the needs, and come up with the funding that we need to deal with these crises now?

And I guess, Senator Mayne. We are coming to the close of the CHEF program, Centennial Highway Endowment Fund, that you people created to take care of some needs years ago. And is there any discussion, or planning for another program such as the CHEF, through the Legislature, perhaps bonding, that would perhaps take care of some of these emergency needs here in the Wasatch Front, and throughout the state?

SENATOR MAYNE: First of all, I would say I hope so. I hope that the Legislature --

It's all about choices and priorities.

Sometimes we get our choices and priorities wrong.

But hopefully, that those three areas that I've identified as crises for the state of Utah,

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public, health and union services, and transportation,
gets addressed.

Now, I would hope that we would do that. Number one.

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But if you -- if we, as a state, take the initiative of putting a set sales tax on, and all of a sudden we've got a funding stream of a half a million dollars, annually, coming in, \$500 million plus, as the populations goes, then your bonding, and a lot of other things, are a lot easier to get more money to, you know, to target those roads that need to be done right now, and in an emergency situation.

And we -- you all are doing a great job.

I -- I don't -- Glen and you all have done a great job.

So has UDOT. And I think that we just need to take it the next step and do what we need to do as a state county municipal government to say, we are in a crisis, and we need to deal with it. And this is the first step.

COMMISSIONER WILSON: Thank you.

SENATOR MAYNE: There are a lot of us that are there with you.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Commissioner Lewis.

COMMISSIONER LEWIS: There's not a lot of good questions to ask, but I think I'll pass on mine

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and allow you and others that are maybe interested in asking questions.

Thanks.

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COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you, commissioner.

We've never had anyone from the audience, and I'm sure we want to try and get -- let them have some swing at this.

Let me just make one or two observations from my perspective.

Whenever I read that we've got a large budget surplus, I know our congestion is growing. I think that's -- I think there's quite a correlation between that. We just know that the economy is growing, and it's whether or not we're keeping up the infrastructure, and we're not.

And the one difficulty we have here today is, we realize there's not one solution, or one source going to solve this that I can envision. It's going to take a combination of coming together and pushing some different areas to make it happen.

And when you're a legislator, and

Senator Mayne knows this as well or better than I do,

this will be one of the major decisions you'll be

making, because you're going to have -- you've got

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bulges in the education budget, you've got all of these things coming at you, so you'll never be able to just focus as a legislator on just this issue. You would like to think you can, but you can't. That's not reality. You'll have to do it all in the framework of all of the other needs that are out there, and not -- and that's why I've felt that it's important that you continue to have this discussion about tolling.

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I'm concerned about fairness too. I don't know how you get by the fairness if you choose to implement a tolling process in Utah. Somebody's going to feel that's unfair. I don't know how you begin it without trying to find two or three roads that you can you do or whatever, because the fairness is a tough issue to deal with. And I respect those that feel that it's unfair if it's in their area. But when you try to figure out all of the tools that you've got available, I think we have to seriously look at it, and one of the tools that has to be considered as we try to solve this problem.

I trust that our elected officials will be responsible, and they'll come to the table and we'll try to find a solution for meeting this rapidly growing infrastructure that's on us. And it's here, and it appears to be moving forward with quite a bit of

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motion, even yet. But somehow we seem to like it, I guess. We advocate it, and we're a part of it, so.

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Ted, I think I'll conclude there.

I really appreciate, in behalf of the Commission, all of you make your -- take your time and made the effort to be here.

We know that we're not in this alone. We're only just one of your neighbors, that's here trying to serve the public in these responsibilities. We're doing our best to listen, to learn, and to understand, and to respond. And we respect your judgement, respect your experience, your knowledge, and all that you have, and we're just trying to make the right decisions for the citizens of this state.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, commissioner.

Thank you, commissioners. Thank you to all of our panelists.

Thank you to the audience for your patience. Let's get to your turn.

If I could ask you to, if you have a question or comment, to approach the center mic. Let me acknowledge you. Ask your question.

I'll go ahead and try to find the appropriate panelist to -- or commissioner to respond to that.

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If you have a comment, if you could keep it to within about two minutes, since we're short on time.

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AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. My name is Tim Parker. I'm the mayor of Saratoga Springs. North end of Utah County. I have two major areas of concern that I just want to comment on briefly.

The first one is, what impact, or what role should this road play? And my sense is is that as a toll road, that it's going to be much more of a through kind of a road than it is going to be a road to address local interests. Like I doubt that I would hop on a toll road to travel a mile to another exit to get off to go shopping. I would end up using the service street. So I do have a concern as to what impact a toll road would have on the local infrastructure responsibility of the city and counties.

My second comment has to do with my concern that beginning to establish toll roads in Utah, in my opinion would lead to some stratification that -- in society that we don't necessarily want to see. The toll roads versus the free roads. And I'd be the guy using the free roads, I'm afraid. My budget, I look at these numbers, think I'd much rather pay the one cent sales tax, where I may have to be paying the same amount over time as I might if I'm paying a toll for

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all of the miles I travel.

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But I concur on the unfairness aspect. Thank you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, mayor.
Other comments or questions?

Go ahead.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. My name is Wendy Bagley, resident of Eagle Mountain City. I'm a mother of three and a half children, and I have a bachelor's degree in political science.

Commissioners, thank you for holding this meeting. This is definitely a far cry from several years ago, the attitude of we'll stop issuing building permits out there. So I appreciate that.

So my husband and I moved out to Eagle

Mountain City, despite the local growing pains we've
had politically. We love, we absolutely love it out
there. We moved out there because we wanted an
affordable house where I could stay home, raise my
children, participate in the schools, participate in
the community. He stills needs to work two jobs, but
he works at the mouth of Provo canyon, and travels
every single day on three of the four worst roads in
Utah County. So we know firsthand the cost and the
time that goes into the transportation problem out

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One question that I have is number one, would the -- is there a transcript being kept of these, of these different talks and the different things that have been kept today? Oh, wonderful. Thank you. So someone like me, I've been out there with my child. I want to look that up afterwards.

My second main concern, I e-mailed about 100 of my friends and family that live all up and down the Wasatch Front, and asked for their opinion, and mentioned that I was coming here. The majority of them said they would favor a toll road because they felt like that is the only option to get the roads there, and to address the transportation needs at the time, however, it is not something they want to pay on forever.

The analogy that came to my mind was -- and please believe me, I grew up in Sandy, when we were changing zip codes all the time, and when there were huge fields. And I remember riding my bike on Highland Drive when it first started. And amazing to come back and see how that infrastructure has changed, and helped that community just grow and flourish. I think of it now, as children who grow up in a family and parents pay for the college education or a car of the first

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three children, the fourth child comes to graduation and they say, Oops. Sorry. It's just too expensive now. You're going to have to pay for it on your own. But not just you, your grandchildren, and your great grandchildren, and your great grandchildren. I do not see that that is fair. I would like to see a sunset clause put in that, as soon as the bond is retired.

MR. KNOWLTON: Just a few more words, please.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

As soon as the bond is retired, as soon as there is a reasonable profit, but I would like to see a sunset clause put on that.

Thank you very much.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you.

Please.

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AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good morning. Mike German with the Utah Taxpayers Association.

Since this is a major tax issue, we would have appreciated being able to speak today. But we'll take our two minutes right now.

We've talked a lot about funding mechanisms, and how to fund transportation infrastructure, whether it's roads and transit. You know, been a lot of

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offense, so to speak. But there hasn't been a lot of talk on the defense side, about how to slow the growth in vehicle miles traveled, especially during rush hour. I think we think that has to be the top priority before any other issue is discussed, and enough, of course, that means talking about congestion pricing or variable pricing which is a form of tolling.

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If we could provide incentives to commuters to change their driving habits, whether it's carpooling, telecommuting, living closer to work, leaving earlier or later, that would have a tremendous impact on vehicle miles traveled during rush hour. Downsizing also. But there's no way we can possibly afford, as taxpayers, and there's no way our economy can afford the kinds of tax increases you're talking about. A one percent sales tax increase, someone mentioned 400 to \$500 million per year, and that won't even cover the costs. Something's got to give. So until we really start talking about the way of slowing the growth and vehicle miles traveled, we're looking at tax increases that will crush our economy.

One comment real quick. There's been an issue brought up about whether or not tolling is fair. Senator Maynes said, Why the west side? That's a valid point, and that's why the Taxpayer's Association

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will be lobbying for tolling on all of the new capacity, including the Legacy, and in Utah County, everywhere else. Because I think you're right. It is a fairness issue. Why the west side? It should be all new construction. And if I'm on the side of whether or not that is a double tax, I think everyone in this room knows that we already use multiple revenue sources already. We use Federal gas tax, state gas tax, sales tax, local tax, et cetera. I counted eight or nine revenue sources already. And increasing one of those is not a double tax. Why is a variable toll a double tax? It's just another funding mechanism. This one is practical because it does give people incentive to change their driving habits.

Thank you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you.

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AUDIENCE MEMBER: Good afternoon. I'm Lemar Kuhn. I have the 21st Century Business Park in West Jordan. We started buying property out there back in 1989. My great grandfather settled the West. He, in 1853, came, built the bridge over the Jordan River at North Temple, and called -- when he got over to the other side, he called it West Jordan. That went to the mountains on the south. I consider the property we own

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out in West Jordan as my heritage. We owned 218 acres. We still own 76. We have a lot of fine businesses out there, Sysco, Dannon. We have several thousand people out there per day travel east and west, and a lot of them go north and south. Our north and south structure is, between you and I, terrible. Our east and west, we're over crowded right now. I voted for number three. I live on the east side. We will be in our home 50 years next year, November 1st.

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The reason I voted for it, I feel the commitment to the valley, because of my heritage, and to all of the nice people I know, and the tons of people out in West Jordan. We have a new mayor out there. He's here this afternoon. David Newton. And he's done a terrific job for the city. We'll be over 100,000 population within the next few months. And all of the people that are in West Jordan, they are not rich people. I don't see too many Cadillacs, Lincolns, Rolls Royces, not much of that. I see a lot of trucks, a lot of SUVs. We need to get around out there. Please give us some help. We -- the employees out there cannot afford a toll road.

MR. KNOWLTON: Few more words.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you very kindly.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you.

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1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Michael Packard. Sandy. 2 Yesterday, KSL had an editorial about the 3 tremendous economic problems facing our country. Huge 4 problems. And those aren't all of them. Не 5 mentioned -- he quoted a, quote unquote, a mantra for 6 our comptroller General David Walker, about the huge 7 problems we've faced. Well, Mr. Walker, a year ago, in 8 a GAO study a year ago, May 05-423, mentioned that for 9 America's economy, and our security, we needed to be 10 evaluating the cost and benefits of highways versus 11 transit. And nobody is. I've urged the regional 12 council to do this. They've ignored it. In their 13 highways, building roads with our money that we pay, 14 your taxes, it's more than 36 times more cost effective 15 for the percentage of trips that they produced than 16 transit. That's -- transit has projected to spend 16 17 billion tax dollars by 2030, or 1.8 percent overall, 18 what's called relative share. And that's \$9 billion 19 almost.

And this is just taxpayer money.

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Highways, a quarter billion dollars for each percentage point. So that's 36 times. The money we need for this project is going to be wasted on transit. UTA has got to be one of the most wasteful bus systems in the country. The higher spiraling costs.

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\$10 billion to go to UTA buses for about three-fourths of one percent share.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Concluding comments?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: I've made a chart to show the -- this huge growth in trip making on the west side in the southwest quadrant of the valley, District 6 as regional counselor calls it. This huge growth in trip It's in the long range plan. This is what highways would normally be doing, carrying about 35 percent. If you have freeways, I mean. If you look closely, I'm going to pass this out. There's a faint red line at the very top to show how this 5,000 rides on the mid-Jordan light rail line will chain down this humongous growth. Well, it's so small you can hardly see it, at the top of this chart. It is nothing. And that \$900 million in the Proposition 3 money needs to go to western transportation corridor, go to the Legislature to get money back from the UTA for the wasteful buses they run.

And Kennecott Land is not your ordinary 500-pound gorilla, they're a 20-ton king kong, and they need to contribute big time.

But there are unique opportunities for partnering with them, so they can contribute with the 12: 02: 03 12: 02: 07

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tremendous impact their project would have on the west side transportation.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you.

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AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

Please. Hello there. My name is Kent
Money, and I'm the mayor of South Jordan. I appreciate
this opportunity of taking a couple of minutes with
you.

I have been impressed with the discussions that we've had thus far on the Mountain View Corridor. I've been involved in it for about two years, and Teri's done a great job. Vision Utah has done a great job. The thing I'm impressed with is we're talking about this issue now, and we're discussing these items now.

Mountain View Corridor doesn't need to be built today. I think we do have some time before it's built, but it's going to have to be built. We're projecting Kennecott's project I think a half a million people on the west side eventually, and that's a lot of pressure, especially when you talk about trying to get people around, unfortunately. Some of the cities have preserved corridors. I know in South Jordan, Kennecott owns most of the land there, and they have preserved a corridor for the Mountain View Corridor, and other

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cities have followed suit.

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We -- and I don't know that I personally am against tolling, but I am against tolling the Mountain View corridor, because I look upon it as a local road. Local -- people who live in that vicinity are going to be using it.

If we put it as a toll road, and I just calculated by the numbers that were put up on the screen, if we're talking \$0.20 a mile, and out in South Jordan there are 20 miles to downtown Salt Lake City.

Now, some of that may not be a toll, but when you start talking seven to eight bucks for a round trip on a toll road, I wonder how many people out on the west side are going to be able to pay that. And if they're not going to be paying that, then you're going to put additional pressure on the east/west traffic that goes to I-15.

Now, all of Salt Lake County has an investment in this Mountain View Corridor, because if we can take people off of I-15, that's going to benefit those who live on the east side.

The Mountain View Corridor is another fact of life, for better or for worse, is that in Salt Lake County, we kind of relegate it to the west side, lower income housing, first-time homebuyer's housing, and that's the burden. Those are the people, a lot of the

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people who will be expected to use the Mountain View Corridor, is that group of people.

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And, as you know, in Utah, we're -- we are extremely conservative about the monies we pay. And I -- again, I stress the point, this east/west pressure. The increase.

Now, I think, unfortunately, Commissioners, you haven't been given the tools that some of the cities have with regards to RDAs and EDAs. If they are used properly, they can be a tremendous benefit to a community.

One of the concerns that I have about the Mountain View Corridor is -- and we talked about, is increased economics that it's going to bring to that area, to the state, and also to the property owners that surround the Mountain View Corridor. Isn't there some kind of a financial impact that we can place there, that the -- because of the economic development, because of the windfall on -- for the property owners, can't some of that money go to help pay for that public infrastructure that's going to be built there?

Do we phase Mountain View Corridor? I think there are a number of things that we can look at. We can be creative in trying to find additional dollars to help build this road that's not a burden on a

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particular area, and -- because the road happens to go through that area.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, mayor.

AUDIENCE SPEAKER: I'm Mayor Dave Newton from West Jordan. I echo what Mayor Money just said. You know, you guys are faced with terrible choices. It's a difficult situation. And I think we all understand it, and appreciate the opportunity to have these discussions.

Let me mention one thing that I don't think has been mentioned here, and that is a concern to the people of West Jordan.

We were given to understand that if we build this road as a toll road, that it will be smaller than if it's a freeway. And where our concern of that is, where there's such a great need. We have 100,000 people now in West Jordan, and three roads that travel ten miles without any freeways. And we're hoping that this corridor will provide some means to alleviate some of that. And if it's smaller, then we're not alleviating that congestion that we're trying to alleviate.

Mayor Nordfelt indicated that our road problems are east and west. It is. But we're hoping that Mountain View will provide some relief to that

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And so also, earlier in the year Mayor

Nordfelt indicated that this was a regional highway,

and a regional concern, and that the Wasatch Front

would direct this. It's a regional effort. And I

agree with that, and also believe that, in that case,

then the regions should help pay for it. And so, we

know your choices are tough, and we'll support you in

whatever you do. Thank you.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you Mayor.

At this point I want to clarify that we will take this to approximately 12:15. If that sounds okay with the Commission.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Fine.

MR. KNOWLTON: And I wanted to clarify that at the bottom of your agenda is the Web site, UDOT Utah.gov backslash Mountain View. That is where the presentations and the transcript can be found.

I will have time for a couple more questions or comments.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you. My name is Brad Marcus. I'm from the Riverton City council. Just a couple of thoughts, if I might.

I sincerely appreciate your thoughts on fairness. That is a serious issue, obviously, and we

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appreciate your willingness to look at that and examine that.

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As I run the numbers that you presented, if somebody takes a 30-mile commute each day during the peak hours, they're looking at approximately \$270 a month to be able to use the toll road. Obviously there aren't many residents in the state, let alone on the west side, that will be able to utilize that service for \$270 a month.

Like the other mayors that have spoken, we too are very concerned about the east/west, and recognize that the north/south will help that. That will allow people to move north or south before they have to go east/west.

And so we appreciate you looking at it. We need it. And there's no doubt, if you've not spent any time out in the southwest area of the valley, there is much to be done out there. So in fairness, thank you for your willingness to look at that.

MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: My name is Lynn Crane.

I'm the mayor of Herriman City. And I would just like to express appreciation to everyone who has participated here today, and to the Commission for having this discussion. It's been informing, and

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interesting, and obviously people with a lot more expertise than I are trying to address this situation.

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But we do have a serious situation. And my concern is that we address the issue of fairness. That seems to be one of the primary concerns of everyone here. I think it was Commissioner Ellertson that said when we make a decision as monumental as funding a project like the Mountain View Corridor, there -- it creates a tremendous impact.

I know in our community, when we make decisions, some of those decisions impact some of us -- some members more than it does others, and that's inherent in the nature of what we do.

However, we should try to minimize that impact as much as possible, and make it fair.

I have a friend who has always said, regarding church callings, that if all of those church callings at the top are so good, they ought to be passed around and shared. And then he said, and if they're not that good, they ought to be passed around and shared. And that's a little bit about the way impact on these issues are. If we can pass it around and share it, it will be more compatible for everyone.

So the fairness is an issue. I think there are a lot of alternative ways to produce funding, and

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maybe we need to use all of those.

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There's been some talk about the gasoline tax. Certainly an additional sales tax. We would support all of those things in lieu of a toll, if it were possible. If it was possible.

I'm happy that the media is here, and there's been a lot of talk about the political will of the Legislature, or of elected officials. It is going to take political will to address these issues. And hopefully, as it becomes more -- as the information is out, and the public becomes more and more aware, the media can help us generate the political will. The elected officials and the Legislature gets their will from the people, and the feeling of the people. And so you can help a great deal in helping generate that -- the political will to address the situation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be here. I don't envy your decisions. I know that they're tough. I do have great concerns about tolling, as someone who lives on the west side.

One other comment. There was some comment about the technology that may be available that could help address and mitigate the direct impact that some of the people on the west side would feel with a

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tolling decision. Hopefully that will be looked at, and that \$270 that Brad is talking about could be mitigated for the people that live in the radius, or in the vicinity of the corridor.

Thank you very much.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you, Mayor.

We have time for two more questions.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'll be quick. I'm Barry McCullough. I'm a resident of Sandy City.

First, I'd like to compliment

Commissioner Millington, and as well as Vern Anderson, in commenting and pointing out that sources like gasoline tax or fuel tax shouldn't be taken off the table so early until we get through the process, because certainly, as the president said, we do have an addiction to oil, and we have an energy problem in this country, and maybe that can help solve, or at least get us in the direction there.

The specific follow-up question I have is one that Commissioner Wells had for Vicki, I believe, with Kennecott. Is -- one of the examples that were shown by one of the presenters was having a very specific impact fee to housing, business development of two to \$4,000 per unit as an example. Would Kennecott Copper, or Kennecott Development, as being one of the

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major developers in that area, consider that a way of partnering with solving this problem?

MS. VARELA: It's our view that every option needs to be in the mix. And so there's got to be a discussion about that. There's got to be a discussion about toll roads, regional taxes, sales taxes, gas taxes. All of those things need to be out on the table to figure out how we come up with the money to create the regional infrastructure that's necessary for the quality of life.

MR. KNOWLTON: Any other panelists that want to comment on that?

Okay. Please.

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AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'm Paul Fetzer, Fetzer
Architectural in West Valley.

Without mining, extraction of the national resources and manufacturing of those resources and bringing those resources to market, we don't have a goose that laid the golden egg. You have no taxes if that economy is not healthy. And that's my primary concern. The businesses that are on the west side and need to be connected with the rest of the business corridors in the state, need desperately for this corridor. And so I'm urging the Commission to do their part in waxing the wheels of -- or the track of

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business, because that's the goose that laid the golden egg and provides the taxes for these roads, and for education, and for the other programs that we need. So if you're not doing that, then I think we've failed in our efforts.

Thank you.

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MR. KNOWLTON: Thank you.

Thank you for all in the audience for your patience today, and for your participation.

Commissioner Brown, I'd like to turn it over to you for closing comments.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Thank you again.

Ted, we appreciate you moderating our panels today.

I've served as a member of the Legislature, as you know. When I first started I had a lot of the answers. When I ended, I had some of the questions figured out. I think that's kind of parallel to what we're dealing with here. It's a lot easier to figure out the questions than it is the answers.

But -- and I trust we'll do that. It will take a balance and it will take efforts on the part of everybody that participated and referred to here today.

I remember -- I'm getting to where I don't -- my memory don't come as good as it used to,

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but we had to pump the lake once. And we prepared to do it, and then some of that, and being a legislator that lived in the mountains, I struggled with wanting to vote -- spending public money to pump the lake that I -- I couldn't figure out, where I live at 5600 and the lake's 4211, that I was at very much risk. after having reviewed that, and trying to be a responsible public servant, I realized that there was a public need in this state for that to happen. And I supported and voted for that piece of legislation, and I trusted our elected officials, when they hear everything there is to hear, and study it in the depth that they need, that I trust we will come together and we'll find a solution to build the Mountain View Corridor in a timely manner, and do it as equitably and fairly as we know how to do.

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Again, we thank all of you for coming today, and there will obviously be more discussions, more meetings held. Continue to do your best thinking and feel free to interact with any of us on the Commission, or any of the department, or your local elected officials. And we're all in this together trying to solve this.

Thank you very much, and have a good afternoon.

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The Commission will be recessed until 1:30, 12: 20: 26 and we'll have our -- we'll move over to the complex to 12: 20: 28 complete our meeting today. 12: 20: 32 (Whereupon, the hearing 12: 20: 34 was concluded at 12:21 p.m.)

1 STATE OF UTAH SS 2 COUNTY OF SALT LAKE 3 THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing 4 proceeding in the foregoing cause named, was taken before me, DEBRA A. DIBBLE, a Certified Shorthand 5 Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Utah, residing at Woodland, Utah. 6 7 That the testimony of said proceeding was reported by me in Stenotype, and thereafter caused by 8 me to be transcribed into typewriting, and that a full, true and correct transcription of said testimony so 9 taken and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing annexed transcript. 10 11 I further certify that I am not of kin or otherwise associated with any of the parties to said 12 cause of action, and that I am not interested in the event thereof. 13 14 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Notarial Seal this ___ day of 15 _____, 2006. 16 17 Debra A. Dibble, C.S.R., R.P.R. 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25